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WORLD



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protesters kill at least 54.

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PSS says 1,920 student laptops stolen, damaged

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The Public School System disclosed yesterday that many of the laptops given to students to aid in their studies have been reported lost, stolen, or damaged, resulting in some students not benefiting from the One-Laptop-Per-Child program.

Secondary school principals' representative Vince Dela Cruz reported to the Board of Education's fiscal and personnel affairs committee yesterday that 1,920 laptops have been lost, stolen, or damaged.

The PSS laptop program is a four-year-old project that provides brand new laptops to all secondary students from middle to high school—both in public and private schools. The students get to own their units after graduating from

high school. This project is funded by federal grants.

Dela Cruz, along with PSS associate commissioner for instructional services Jackie Quitugua, provided the board committee yesterday with a detailed inventory of all the units in every school campus.

To date, PSS records show that a total of 2,158 laptops are considered in good condition; 137 units are functioning with some troubles; 361 were lost or stolen; 1,559 units are reported damaged; while 93 secondary students in PSS were

See LAPTOPS on Page 4

\$480K savings eyed in schools' merger

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

RELATED NEWS

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The financial-ly-challenged Public School System projects to save up to \$480,000

next school year if its plan to consolidate and reconfigure some schools pushes through.

PSS financial consultant Ed Tenorio told the Board of Education's fiscal and personnel affairs committee yesterday that this savings will come from personnel costs alone.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., wants the first part of the plan to be enforced in school year

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Inos weighs in on Neal's trip to Pagan

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Without passing judgment, Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that there is an "appearance of some potential ethical issues" on the part of chief prosecutor Shelli Neal's recent trip to Pagan aboard a boat owned and captained by a criminal defendant, former Public Safety commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro.

The governor said he has yet to receive from Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas a briefing on Neal's trip to Pagan.

Inos indicated he did not know what transpired, including the 18-hour boat ride that included a prosecutor and a criminal defendant.

"I would talk to the AG," the governor told reporters yesterday.

Ogumoro is among the defendants in an alleged police escort and alleged misappropriation case that also involves former attorney general Edward Buckingham, former governor Benigno R. Fitial, and other law enforcement officers.

"The issue is one of ethical consideration and if the AG feels that there is no ethical issues involved then... Obviously there's an appearance of some potential ethical issues but, I mean, you know, the AG is going to be the person that will make that decision... judgment... as to whether there are any violations of ethical rules or stuff

See NEAL on Page 4



NEW EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, center, leads yesterday's ribbon cutting for a state-of-the-art CNMI Emergency Operations Center, which cost at least \$4.6 million to build and equip. From left, special assistant for Homeland Security and Emergency Management Marvin Seman, Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), Inos, Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider and Saipan Mayor Donald Flores.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

\$14M to be added to \$123.4M budget later

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that an estimated \$14 million will be added later to the \$123.4 million budget for fiscal year 2014 to meet provisions of the NMI Retirement Fund settlement agreement and fund the Group Health and Life Insurance. The House Ways and Means Committee is trying to pre-file the budget bill this week.

When asked where the additional \$14 million in "supplemental budget" would

come from, the governor said they would be from steadily climbing tourism numbers, additional revenue-generating measures and, if feasible, proceeds from a planned pension obligation bond.

"We are going to have to do more than just normal increase or accretion in the economic growth. We are going to have to do more than that, like finding [new] sources of revenues," the governor told reporters at the official opening of the

CNMI Emergency Operations Center on Capital Hill yesterday.

» **Inos says added amount for Fund settlement, life insurance**

This comes a week after the governor told lawmakers of plans to establish limited video lottery on Saipan. He also urged them to pursue revenue-generating measures, some of which have already been on the table for a long time.

House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan) welcomed the governor's decision to submit

a supplemental budget later in the year instead of revising the figures that the committee has worked on for weeks.

The governor will propose an additional budget "after" a 2014 budget measure is passed and signed into law, giving the Legislature ample time to work on the governor's original budget submission of \$123.4 million and to ensure that the projected and actual revenue increase is sustainable.

Earlier, the administration was targeting to revise the budget on or before July 31 for the Legislature's consideration.

"We might be able to revise the budget as we go along. Right now, we're going

See BUDGET on Page 4

Anti-litter drive making a dent to save Laolao Bay. PAGE 3
'If pensions are cut, then also cut gov't budget' PAGE 9

Local

\$4.6M CNMI Emergency Operations Center officially opens

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Local and federal officials officially opened yesterday a state-of-the-art CNMI Emergency Operations Center on Capital Hill, which cost at least \$4.6 million to build and equip, beefing up the islands' emergency response system in times of natural disasters and man-made threats.

"With the completion of this facility, the CNMI becomes home to one of the newest, best equipped state-of-the-art central command and control facility. At a cost of over \$3 million, this 13,000 square-foot facility will serve as the center of coordination and response to threats and disasters," Gov. Eloy S. Inos told a crowd gathered in front of the EOC.

Marvin Seman, special assistant for Homeland Security and Emergency Management, said the EOC's official opening is "important" and "timely," as July marks the beginning of the tropical cyclone season.

"I'm extremely proud of the administration and the community for recognizing the need for a facility that may very well be one of the most important buildings in our community and that it serves to protect our citizens [and their] livelihood," Seman said.

The 13,000 square feet facility is equipped with up-to-date technology and communication capabilities, and boasts of an ability to sustain response coordination during major or multiple incidents. This greatly improves the CNMI's ability to effectively and efficiently manage emergencies.

"Emergency coordination requires a multi-agency or multi-jurisdiction response, ultimately reducing response time and saving lives. And during large complex incidents, the CNMI Emergency Operations Center assumes a unified coordination role as an incident expands in size or increases in complexity," he said.

This comes weeks after the signing of Public Law 18-4 that merged two entities into the CNMI Homeland Security



Gov. Eloy S. Inos, left, and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, second from left, and other CNMI officials tour the state-of-the-art CNMI Emergency Operations Center while Fr. Isaac M. Ayuyu blesses the building yesterday. Other photo shows officials about to enter the building.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

and Emergency Management Agency, allowing for the implementation of best management practices in emergency coordination, and giving the agency the responsibility and authority to coordinate and manage major incidents in the CNMI.

Yesterday's well-attended official opening also came five years after the groundbreaking ceremony on April 11, 2008. The delayed completion resulted from funding issues, change orders, and weather, among other things.

Both Seman and the governor thanked the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, contractor GPPC, grantor agencies such as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and other federal and local entities that helped develop the EOC.

The governor said funding

for the facility was almost lost couple of years ago, but "thanks to the reconsideration of FEMA and the helpful folks from the Corps of Engineers which made this project possible."

Inos also congratulated the management team and staff of the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office for the completion of the long-awaited facility.

"This facility and its equipment are tremendous assets; I ask that we all do our part to be responsible and to use them with care. Finally, in line with Homeland Security efforts nationwide, I would like to remind everyone: If you see something, say something," the governor said.

FEMA Region 9 Infrastructure Branch chief Samuel Ronveaux, who is currently in the CNMI for workshops and training,



said Homeland Security grants provided backup generator and communication systems while emergency management program grants provided some funding for computers and work stations inside.

Seman, in an interview during a tour of the facility, said over 680 CNMI personnel have been trained as part of the EOC.

He said the EOC alone cost \$2.8 million to build, while equipment and additional items cost \$1.8 million, for a total of \$4.6 million. This still does not include the daily operational costs.

Besides work stations for emergency response dispatchers, the facility also has an area for policy makers for greater coordination. Huge television

sets are also on the wall for easy monitoring, including the monitoring of Anatahan, Sarigan and Pagan where cameras have already been installed.

Also at the ceremony were Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, CNMI House and Senate members, Cabinet members, visiting federal officials and all other stakeholders.

BOE to meet with parents on merger issue prior to decision

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Board of Education chair Herman T. Guerrero assured parents of both Tanapag and Gregorio T. elementary schools yesterday that a meeting will be held with the community and stakeholders of both schools prior to any decision on the proposed merger and reconfiguration of the schools.

Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* that, although the item is on the agenda during the scheduled meeting on Thursday, the board

will not decide on the issue without first meeting with parents on the issue.

He said the item will only be purely for the purpose of discussion and getting more information from the PSS leadership team, headed by Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.

On Monday, Tanapag school PTSA president Shawnaei Ogumoro conveyed the confusion and frustration of some parents who have yet to get an audience with the BOE, as requested at the June 17 meeting.

Ogumoro said they are wor-

ried that the merger plan will be decided this week without hearing the parents' voices first.

When asked when the potential meeting with the PTSA will be, Guerrero said he is looking at this month after the Pacific Educational Conference, which is slated for July 16-19.

"We're thinking after the PEC conference, but surely it will be within the month. We will go out and listen to whatever comments and concerns they have," Guerrero said. "BOE will make a sound decision based on what have been presented to us."

Guerrero said that BOE is absorbing all the data and information from the management first before hearing the stakeholders' views on the issue.

"We want to prepare ourselves. By having all the information and preliminary data, it would help us make a sound decision. In this time of financial challenges for our schools, we need to also figure out ways on how to survive. That's why we want to know from the Legislature also how much they are going to give us, so we can find ways for our

needs," added Guerrero.

He described the management proposal as merely the "reconfiguration" of schools rather than mergers, in order to reallocate resources.

"Our focus is provide the best education for our children. So if you will look at it really, Tanapag is not that far and is not too much a burden for the parents," he disclosed.

According to associate commissioner Jackie Quitugua, PSS has had 10 meetings with the schools' stakeholders and PTSA since June 10.

From the beginning when the merger issue was first an-

nounced, Quitugua said that there appears to be a significant change in the views, opinions, and sentiments of the parents and community members.

She said majority of attendees now understand PSS' situation and goals and have affirmed support for the plan.

In these series of meetings, she said that PSS responded to each and every question and concern raised by stakeholders, including safety issues, facility, staffing, and other concerns.

The merger proposal for the two elementary schools is targeted for implementation when classes open on Sept. 3.

Anti-litter drive making a dent to save Laolao Bay

By **MARK RABAGO**

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The anti-littering drive and community ranger project at Laolao Bay is making a dent on efforts to preserve the area for

Prosecution, defense rest case in trial of ex-CUC board chair

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**

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REPORTER

The prosecution and defense counsel rested their cases yesterday in the ongoing jury trial of former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chair Francisco Q. Guerrero, who is facing charges of allegedly molesting a female minor.

After presenting five witnesses yesterday, including the mother of the alleged victim, assistant attorneys general James McAllister and Margo Brown informed Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman that the government is resting its case.

The prosecution called the alleged victim to the witness stand at the start of the trial on Monday. The girl is now 17 years old.

After the government rested its case, defense attorney Brien Sers Nicholas, counsel for the 63-year-old Guerrero, moved for a judgment of acquittal. Wiseman denied the motion.

Nicholas then called one witness, Herman Cabrera, an architect, who stated that he dealt with Guerrero for 25 years and found him very professional in his work and is law-abiding.

Wiseman excused the jurors early afternoon yesterday and directed them to return to court at 9am today, Wednesday, for the closing arguments.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Guerrero with 15 crimes: one count of sexual abuse of a minor in the fourth degree, two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, three counts of assault and battery, two counts of indecent exposure in the second degree, two counts of indecent exposure in the first degree, and five counts of disturbing the peace.

Last month, Wiseman dismissed counts 3 and 5 charging the defendant with indecent exposure in the first degree, saying he finds the two charges duplicitous.

The jurors will decide only two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree. Wiseman will decide on the remaining charges.

Police said that Guerrero first sexually abused the girl when she was in ninth grade, followed by five other incidents. The latest allegedly happened at the Veterans Cemetery in Marpi on May 25, 2012, when the defendant allegedly fondled himself and touched her privates.

future generations, according to two environmentalists who served as guests in the Rotary Club of Saipan's weekly meeting yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Avra Heller, Coral Reef Project coordinator of the Division of Environmental Quality, said there appears to be "more coral cover and less algae" in the area.

However, she can't necessarily confirm whether that is directly due to the anti-littering efforts of the Laolao Bay Campaign without any further data.

Heller, who has worked in Zanzibar, Belize, and Costa Rica before coming to Saipan, said the main goal of the Laolao Bay Campaign is to do community outreach on the value of the watershed area.

"Our main engagement is to stop people from littering Laolao Bay and treat it with respect and the goal is to expand that campaign to include the rest of the island."

One of their strategies, she said, is to identify local leaders in the area who are champions of the cause.

Another activity, Heller said, is getting volunteers to Laolao Bay for beach cleanups. "We want to keep people engaged in actively practicing what we are trying to preach."

They also do public awareness campaigns at fairs and fiestas like the 2013 Taste of Marianas, organize story and photo contests, team up with the My Wave Club, and join the Trunk or Treat. They had the Litter Monster and a flash mob of 60 youth at their last Trunk or Treat.

The campaign also enlisted

a mixed martial arts fighter for a commercial where he fought trash and asked that everyone help in the anti-littering campaign at Laolao Bay.

The group used to have a pledge board where they would

post Polaroid photos of supporters who have pledged to help with the campaign. However, the lack of Polaroid film forced them to switch to a digital camera and post the pledges on the campaign's Facebook account.

The Laolao Bay Campaign is a project involves other agencies, among them DEQ, Coastal Resources Management, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, and a non-government organization based in the U.S. mainland.

Catherine Shai, meanwhile, talked about Tasi Watch where she serves as an outreach coordinator.

She said Tasi Watch is a volunteer-driven program with community rangers helping them during beach cleanups and other activities like removal of invasive vines and emptying garbage bins at adopted sites, not just at Laolao Bay but all over the island as well.

Shai said that Tasi Watch's main goal is to decrease three threats to the islands: overfishing, climate change, and land-based pollution.

Tasi Watch took part in the recent Environmental Expo where they deputized 1,500 children by having them take a pledge that they will not litter.

Tasi Watch has also worked with the Turtle Advocate Guardians Society and witnessed not only a turtle nesting but also a hatchling.

"Volunteers assisted in collecting data as well as made sure the hatchlings had a safe journey to the ocean. It's a very rewarding thing."



MARK RABAGO

Division of Environmental Quality-Coral Reef Project coordinator Avra Heller speaks while Tasi Watch outreach coordinator Catherine Shai mans the projector during the two environmentalists' presentation at yesterday's weekly Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

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House retains 25 of 100 FTEs as fallback plan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The House Ways and Means Committee is keeping 25 of the governor's proposed hiring of 100 full-time equivalents for the Executive Branch for essential services, but only as a "fallback" plan should the privatization of parks maintenance services in fiscal year 2014 bogs down.

Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan) said the panel was ready to scrap the 100 FTEs in

the 2014 budget but after communicating once again with the administration yesterday afternoon, they are agreeing to 25 FTEs, equivalent to the number of Division of Parks and Recreation employees that will be affected by the privatization plan.

Sablan said some committee members are still wary about the administration's ability to move on with the parks maintenance service privatization less than two months before the start of the Oct. 1 target implementation date.

But Sablan believes a compromise has been reached to balance both parties' concerns.

The governor's proposed hiring of 100 FTEs for the entire Executive Branch provided they are "essential" to the delivery of public services has been a sticky issue with the committee, which is reviewing the governor's proposed 2014 budget of \$123.4 million.

Inos, in a separate interview yesterday, reiterated that the administration wants to have flexibility in hiring essential service

employees.

"Rather than give departments individual vacant FTEs, we'd rather control it by way of putting available FTEs in a pool and whoever needs it for critical position, then we go that route," the governor said. "If they want to bring it down to zero, that's fine with me but we execute administrative branch responsibilities and if we don't have the people then we can't deliver services. It's not political, it's not dear to my heart, I just want to make sure that we have the flexibility, that's all."

Hours later, administration

officials meeting with Ways and Means Committee discussed the matter further.

Sablan later told reporters of the compromise reached to agree to 25 of the original proposed \$100 FTEs.

The governor reiterated yesterday his administration's plan to start shrinking the size of government.

He said he understands concerns about the employees affected by the privatization plan but added that these will be addressed.

"We need to face this thing head on. We'll never be able to shrink the size of government. I understand the concerns of the employees and we have to deal with that," he said.

"With the number of civil service employees we have on the payroll, we will never be able to talk about streamlining government operations, the size of government, if we continue to do this thing.

"I thought that privatizing that part of the activity is not going to be that difficult. We'll have to figure out a way to address the issue of

civil service employees and so forth," he added.

A request for proposal will be issued for interested private entities to take over the government's parks maintenance services.

Inos said there is still time to do this.

"And we can always cancel it if it doesn't look like it's going to work," he added.

Cost-cutting

The House Ways and Means Committee will decide today on the proposal of Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Yumul) to cut some \$800,000 from the administration's proposed budget for the Office of the Governor, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and the Department of Corrections.

This, after the committee already rejected Yumul's proposal to cut from the proposed budgets for the Department of Finance and other smaller agencies.

Sablan said Corrections Commissioner Ray Mafnas will be joining the Ways and Means Committee meeting this morning.

BUDGET

From Page 1

to need to make a significant revision on the budget to the tune of about \$14 million, because that's what's needed to just handle the additional minimum requirement in response to the proposed settlement agreement with Retirement [Fund]," the governor said.

Inos, who personally took part in the Fund settlement negotiations, said the \$14 million is "\$5 million more than what we provide, plus another \$7 million to \$9 million that we are going to do to pick up health insurance premium."

"That would be dedicated for those two items, just for retirement. It's a tall order but..." the governor added.

This is on top of the governor's proposed \$20 million set

aside for the government's employer contribution remittance to the Retirement Fund in fiscal year 2014.

To boost funding for the Fund and the settlement deal, the governor said it's more about generating additional revenues rather than further reduction in agencies' budgets.

"At this point, we're not looking at reduction in resources but rather the need to have more resources to take care of new obligations," Inos said. "Everything, from video lottery to casino... We're talking about major infusion of resources. Collection of additional taxes, we will continue to do that but that's not going to make a [huge] difference."

Fiscal year 2014 is from Oct. 1, 2013, to Sept. 30, 2014.

From the original projection of \$114 million, the proposed 2014 budget was adjusted to \$123.4 million and would be

increased once fiscal year 2014 comes in.

The governor, at the same time, called on the CNMI people "to continue to be patient as we find our way to improve their livelihood."

"We're doing everything in working closely with the Legislature and hopefully continue to work with them, or that they will continue to work with me, bring about some real meaningful and beneficial changes for our people," he said.

The governor cited Retirement Fund and utilities as major concerns.

"We've got to come to a point where we have to agree on certain issues. There will be some sacrifices but I hope that we can take those in stride, and just go, move forward, plan for something that will happen upon recovery and we're working on that as well. So I'd like our

LAPTOPS

From Page 1

not issued laptops.

At Hopwood Junior High, it was disclosed that 722 units are in good condition; 50 were lost or stolen; 306 are damaged; and 7 students were not given units. The school received a total of 1,085 laptops.

At Chacha Junior High, Dela Cruz bared that 244 units are in good condition; 9 were stolen; 61 are damaged; while 3 students were not given units.

The biggest public high school, Marianas High School, has 529 units in good condition; 121 were lost or stolen; 363 were reported damaged; and 50 students did not get any laptop.

At Kagman High, 247 laptops are in good condition; 69 have been lost or stolen; while 230 units are damaged. Ten students were not issued laptops.

At Saipan Southern High, 106 laptops were reported stolen or lost; 82 are damaged; 169 are in good condition; and 50 students were not issued laptops.

At the Tinian Jr. & Sr. High School, only 51 units are in good condition while 131 still function but with some troubles. Only 3 units were reported stolen or lost while 61 are now damaged. All students in this school were issued laptops.

At the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. & Sr. High School, 196 units are in good condition; 56 are damaged; 3 were lost or stolen; while 18 students did not get laptops.

According to Dela Cruz, some students were not issued laptops for a range of reasons, such as their parents didn't want it for their children; some students already have their personal laptops; and some students came in late after the distribution of laptops.

Dela Cruz said that damaged

laptops are referred to the PSS vendor if the warranty is still in effect.

For those with lapsed warranties, it is the responsibility of parents to shoulder the cost of repairing or replacing those units that are lost or damaged by their children, as provided for in the "agreement" signed by parents and PSS on the One-Laptop-Per-Child Policy.

In the case of damaged units on Tinian and Rota schools, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. & Sr. High principal Sharlene Manglona disclosed that she often brings the damaged units to Saipan for repairs. If the warranty is already expired, parents are asked to pay for the cost of the repair.

Great benefit

To better track and monitor the effectiveness of the One-Laptop-Per-Child policy, secondary schools have implemented several measures including

requiring students to bring their units to school daily; random laptop checks; and better communication with parents who will be notified on the status of their child's laptop and their responsibility under the program.

The laptop project was brought to the committee's table after some board members questioned the effectiveness of the program and pushed for a revisit of the policy.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., still has faith in the program, saying yesterday that PSS had seen the great benefits from the program for four years now and she's optimistic that the initiative will continue to be implemented because "this is about 21st century education."

FPA committee chair Herman T. Guerrero said that laptops are essential tools in the success of e-learning for schoolchildren.

He said this project has been in the works for the last 10 years.

"We've just been going back and forth, looking for sources of funding, working with Army Corps to look at new technology that will help benefit in seismic monitoring. They got the latest technology that we want to test out; this is basically one of the best places in the world to do it, in Pagan. It hasn't stopped spewing since the 1980s," he added.

NEAL

From Page 1

like that," Inos said.

The AG has been standing by Neal.

The governor himself is off to Pagan tomorrow, along with local and federal officials to check on the U.S. Geological Services and contractor's seismography installations on the volcanic island.

Inos said it could also be an

opportunity for him to take a look at Pagan before the U.S. Department of Defense uses the island for live-fire training exercises.

Also off to Pagan are special assistant for Homeland Security and Emergency Management Marvin Seman, John T. Camacho of the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office, and press secretary Angel Demapan.

Seman said depending on the weather, the group is sched-

uled to leave Saipan for Pagan Thursday morning by plane. He said it would take about an hour-and-a-half to reach Pagan by plane, about two hours by helicopter, and some 15 hours by boat.

"We would look at... almost two months of work by approximately 30 people up there installing cameras and all equipment that will monitor Pagan a lot better for us, so we know more and understand its behavior..." Seman said.

MERGER

From Page 1

2013-2014, with the merger of the Gregorio T. Camacho and Tanapag elementary schools and the reconfiguration of Kagman Elementary School and Chacha Oceanview Junior High School.

According to Tenorio, Phase 1 will impact GTC, Tanapag, Hopwood, KagEs, Chacha, and GES.

Once the Tanapag Middle School is established, there will be a rezoning of schools and this will impact students in GES and Hopwood schools.

Tenorio said that PSS had proposed a total budget of \$7.7 million for the affected schools in fiscal year 2014. With the merger plan, the personnel budget for these schools will be reduced to \$7.2 million.

The difference of \$500,000 will be reallocated to other schools. Tenorio said the reallocation of this amount will allow PSS to add teachers to Hopwood, GES, GTC, and Tanapag.

Reallocation will also lower the class size ratios of the affected schools to a more acceptable level. Hopwood, for example, is targeted to have a 26:1 students-to-teacher ratio compared to its current ratio of 41:1.

The reallocation, he added, will also allow the expansion of the kindergarten program from half-day to full-day at GTC and KagES.

"Currently, there are 300 potential students staying at home due to insufficient kindergarten classrooms," said Tenorio.

"So if you're asking if the merger plan makes sense for us, the answer is yes. Not only in financial part, but this is one benefit that we need to embark on. We need to change the mindset of funding education nowadays. We know already that we're not

getting the budget we asked for, so we need to adapt to the constraint of our revenue. So this [merger and reallocation] is one way to look at it."

Also, because it helps lower class sizes, there's more learning with less money, he added.

Staffing needs

As to how PSS will meet all its staffing needs under the merger plan—on top of current vacancies in other schools—Sablan said that PSS is now working on the staffing pattern for GTC and KagES on the need for more kindergarten teachers.

She said PSS will "switch around" some classroom teacher FTEs with other schools to field teachers at the proposed middle school in Tanapag. It was bared that many teachers in Tanapag have opted to be transferred to other schools like Oleai.

Acting human resources director Lucretia Borja disclosed yesterday that a total of 24 classroom teacher posts are currently vacant due to resignations and relocations.

Borja is optimistic, however, that PSS will get the necessary staffing for next school year, with 18 candidates already in the applicants' pool, mostly from off-island.

Under the merger proposal, GTC will have 14 teachers while Tanapag Middle School will have 11 teachers.

Head Start

Sablan also disclosed yesterday that the Head Start Center in Tanapag will remain inside the Tanapag campus, even if the school is converted into a middle school.

FPA chair Herman Guerrero instructed the commissioner, however, to seek the approval of the federal government on the issue of keeping the Head Start center inside a middle school campus.

Hospital DMA soon to get additional compensation

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare

US vet files \$5M lawsuit for asbestos-related lung disease

A U.S. veteran based in Thailand has filed a \$5-million lawsuit in federal court against the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Navy for his lung disease that he allegedly incurred after being exposed to asbestos fibers when he served in a U.S. Navy vessel in 1972 and 1973.

Johannes Weber is suing the U.S. Navy for negligence because he was allegedly under orders from his then military superiors to perform work in the engineering spaces of a U.S. Navy vessel where he was exposed to asbestos without proper safety equipment.

In a complaint he filed without a lawyer on Monday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI, Weber asked the court to require the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to pay him for his medical cost associated with treatment of a service connected disability.

He asked the court to award damages to his common-law wife, Khawannudee Boonjan, who is in Thailand, should he die before the court can rule on

Corp. board chair Joaquin Torres disclosed yesterday that the director for medical affairs of the Commonwealth Health

the lawsuit.

Weber said his lung disease caused him to be 100 percent disabled. He said he was discharged under honorable conditions and was represented by the Disabled American Veterans and granted a non-service connected pension on July 31, 2003.

He said the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs discontinued his pension after falsely accusing him of owing the Veteran Affairs over \$37,000 in overpayments.

Weber said he needs regular aid and can no longer travel on commercial airlines because of the pressure it exerts on his lungs.

He alleged that the Department of Veterans Affairs is not paying for his medical costs in Thailand for his service connected injury.

Weber said he filed an application for compensation with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, but never received a response.

It was not clear yet why Weber filed his lawsuit on Saipan. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Center may soon get additional pay for the extra tasks he or she performs.

Torres said the decision now lies with interim CEO Esther Muna, who will make the final determination as to when will

Guam governor signs bill to help hospital pay debt

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo has signed a bill to help the territory's only civilian hospital repay its debts.

The *Pacific Daily News* reports that Calvo last week signed legislation giving Guam Memorial Hospital the ability to borrow up to \$13 million to pay hospital vendors.

Calvo has pledged to give the hospital \$2 million a year to repay the loan.

The money would come from \$16 million in federal funds Guam receives each year to cover public services for people from Micronesia, Palau and the Marshall Islands.

The hospital owes vendors nearly \$21 million.

One vendor that supplies bandages, gauze and other necessities is owed about \$6 million. The hospital recently worked out a payment plan so the vendor wouldn't stop service.

be the best time to apply it.

"We have agreed to propose to the CEO up to \$15,000 compensation for DMA because, for us, that's a reasonable amount for the additional work and tasks the DMA is performing for the hospital and the board," said Torres.

The DMA is a member of the corporation's board of trustees and is appointed by the CEO. The individual serves as the direct link between the management and the hospital's clinical organization.

Since the corporation took over the Department of Public

Health's operation, the DMA was never given extra pay, resulting in a fast turnover rate for the position. To date, individuals who have served this post include Drs. Shirish Balachandra, Michael Deary, Jeremy Richards, and Sherleen Osman.

"Aside from the proposed compensation, the board also proposed to the CEO a selection process for the position. From the usual practice of appointment by the CEO, the DMA must come from the recommendation of the medical staff to make sure he/she will articulate their voices," he said.

According to Torres, the board is appreciative of Osman who graciously accepted the DMA position despite her hectic schedule. Because of this, the board wants Osman to be the first to benefit from this initiative.

The DMA reports directly to the CEO and provides strategic guidance for all medical programs within the corporation. The DMA also ensures that medical staff is abreast of every initiative and procedure and he/she works with other department heads to better serve the patients.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber meeting today

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its July general membership luncheon meeting today, July 10, 2013, at the Pacific Islands Club.

James Nelson, Saipan Docomo Pacific/MCV general manager, will speak to the association on the recent merger between Docomo Pacific and Marianas Cable Vision.

Luncheon begins at 11:30am, with the general membership meeting starting at 12pm and ending at 1pm. Chamber members are charged \$15, while guests and

the general public pay \$20.

Call the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office at 233-7150, or email coordinator@saipanchamber.com, to make advance reservations. *(SCC)*

MHS Class of 1993 meeting today

MHS Class of 1993 president Vivian Sablan is calling for a special meeting today, July 10, 2013, beginning at 6pm at the Naked Fish Restaurant on Beach Road, Garapan. All alumni members are strongly encouraged to come and attend. For more information, contact Maryann Borja-Arriola at

483-2279. *(PR)*

Red Cross trainings set

The American Red Cross is scheduled to conduct Preparedness Health & Safety training on the following dates:

■ July 16 at 6pm: Adult CPR/AED

■ July 18 at 6pm: Pediatric CPR/AED

Classes are held at the chapter training room on Airport Road. Course fees apply. For more information on the courses listed or other certification courses, contact the chapter office at 234-3459 or visit www.redcross.org/take-a-class. *(ARC)*



WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2012 CUC Annual Water Quality Report is now available on-line!

Please go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/CCR-2012.pdf> to view what contaminants were detected in your water in 2012 and learn more about your drinking water. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

AYOOR REPOD

Yóómw 2012 CUC Annual Water Quality Report nge a llo on-line!

Ulól reel <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/CCR-2012.pdf> bwe ubwe weri meta mil ngaw kka re schungi llól yóómw schaal llól 2012 me ubwe bwal ghi mataf reel úlúmómw schaal. Amataffal kkal nge egghi auscheya reel yááyál me ghatchúl yóómw schaal.

Faingi CUC reel (670) 664-4282 ngare u tipeli rebwe seleti ngalúgh amataff kkal, kkapas ngali eschay, me ngare u mwuschel eew kkopiyal rebwe bwughi llól reemw me ngare afanga ngalúgh.

GUMUAHA RIPOT PÁ'GU

I ijom-mu 2012 CUC Annual na Ripot Kuáldât Hânúm esta pá'gu gumuaha gi on-line!

Put fabot hânáo para i <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/CCR-2012.pdf> para u ma'atan hâfa na contaminants manmasodda' gi halum hanom-mu gi 2012 yan para un tungu' mäs put i hanum magimin. Esti na ripot ha sasahguan siha manimopttânti na imfotmasion put i source yan kuáldât i hanum magimin.

Yanggin un nisisita i ripot matranslâda, ya malagu' hão kumuentusi hâyí put i ripot pat malagu' hão kopian páppit u ma'entrega pat mana'hânáo guatu para hâgu, put fabot âgang i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.




What is the H.O.M.E. Visiting Program?

- The H.O.M.E. Visiting Program is an acronym for Healthy Outcomes for Maternal and Early Childhood. The program sets out to improve the health and developmental outcomes for pregnant mothers and infants no older than 3 months of age who reside in at risk communities.

What is the purpose for this program?

- To strengthen the early childhood system in the community and to support families and communities in the development of children who are healthy and ready to learn at school entry. The program wants to also strengthen and enhance initiatives/activities, expand and improve coordination, and assure the provision of comprehensive services for families who reside in at risk communities.

What are the program objectives?

- Promote and maintain positive-child interaction and family involvement
- Provide and connect families to appropriate resources
- Protect and improve the health, growth and development of every participant served
- Produce and deliver quality service to families in at-risk communities

What Services are provided?

- Prenatal care planning
- Basic baby care
- Infant Massage
- Parenting techniques and information
- Developmental screening & activities
- Provide referrals to community resources as needed
- Parent Support
- Evidence Based Curriculum

How can I qualify?

- You are currently pregnant
- You have an infant no older than 3 months of age
- Reside in Kagman, Koblerville or San Antonio

A standardized screening tool will be used to identify families who are eligible to enroll and who will benefit from the program

healthy families america  **gki** great kids, inc.

This has been funded by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), for more information please contact **664-4030/33/35**

Local standup comics get some pointers from Hawaiian duo

Before bringing the house down during "Da Big Bang Comedy Show Blowout Saipan!" on Friday at the Hibiscus Hall of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Hawaiian comics Mel Cabang and Kaleo Pilanca gave aspiring local comedians some key pointers.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Cabang said that comics should not be deterred by distractions and just try to make people laugh.

"Just keep plugging away and be yourself. People will tell you if you're doing good. Be in the moment and live in the moment. You should also be spontaneous and love what

you do," he said.

For his part, Pilanca said comics should first and foremost be humble and not focus too much on past career highlights.

"Be humble. Don't worry about what you did last week because you might have made them laugh last week but you have to make them laugh tonight!"

Cabang said the career he has made for himself in stand-up comedy has been "very rewarding."

This was seconded by Pilanca, who added that making people laugh is actually a kind of therapy for comics.

"Everything that make peo-

ple laugh, that's what it's all about. It's not for fame and glory. It's not for the money," he said.

On their impressions of Saipan, Cabang said, "It's a really beautiful place. Really laid back."

Pilanca had a lengthier explanation: "There's only one way for me to describe Saipan. I called my wife and I told her that 'I'm not coming home in two more weeks.' That's what Saipan does to me...but unfortunately we really leave tomorrow morning [Saturday]."

The two comics from Honolulu also took time to thank Marpac and the Shimizu fam-

ily for bringing them first to Guam and then to Saipan to perform in the Marianas.

Marpac resident manager Guy F. Pudney said he was very pleased with how the "The Big Bang Comedy Blow-out!" turned out.

"Last Friday's comedy show was a hit. It was very funny with a lot of humor we could relate to. I was very happy with the turnout. We also had a lot of sailors from the USS Momsen come out and support the show. I know they had a blast and I'm glad they were able to see the show while they were here on Saipan," he said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

"Da Big Bang Comedy Show Blowout Saipan!" comes in the heels of MarPac flying into Saipan island reggae legend Baba B and Canadian comic Ron Josol. The three events are part of MarPac's 40th anniversary of doing business on Saipan.

Pudney said their next event is the "One of a Kind" Golf Tournament scheduled for Sept. 14 at Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

"We will have a lot of fun games and challenges incorporated into this tournament, which will also include lunch, free flowing drinks, a surprise

at every hole, a free gift bag for every participant, and that evening we will also have a 40th Anniversary Banquet with entertainment at a location to be decided."

Pudney thanks everyone for supporting Marpac and Budweier for the past 40 years.

"Without you and your support Marpac wouldn't exist. We will continue to provide quality products and services to the CNMI and we will continue to do our part as a responsible corporate citizen and to not only help our company but the CNMI as a whole prosper for the next 40 years and beyond." (*Mark Rabago*)

UFO honors Molina for volunteerism

Commonwealth Health Center nurse and active volunteer Ernie Molina was presented with a plaque of appreciation by United Filipino Organizations after last Thursday's Liberation Day parade.

Molina was awarded the plaque of appreciation for his contributions to the first-ever Super Pinoy Gay Model

Contest held on June 16 at the Garapan Fishing Base.

According to UFO president Annamae Adaza, Molina served as the show's production director and was responsible for almost everything, from inviting the participants of the competition, to choreography, to the technical aspect of the show. He also made sure



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth Health Center nurse and active volunteer Ernie Molina accepts his plaque of appreciation from United Filipino Organization president Annamae Adaza at Sandjuy Restaurant after the 2013 Liberation Day parade last July 4.

the judges were not connected with any of the candidates to ensure fairness in judging.

This was the first time the *Pistang Pinoy* celebration featured a gay modeling contest. UFO helps organize the celebration every year.

The contest featured 17 contestants for the Best in Catwalk, Star of the Night, Darling of the Crowd, Best in Fantasy, Best in Talent, and Best in Evening Gown awards.

By the time the night ended, Maria Venus Raj was crowned the overall winner. She also won the Best in Fantasy and the Best in Evening Gown awards.

The Darling of the Crowd was Milkshake, while the winner of the Catwalk prize was Bernadette Cleopatra Marquez. The Star of the Night award went to Venus, who also won the Best in Talent prize.

Serving as judges of the competition were Tan Holdings se-

nior vice president Eli Arago, *Saipan Tribune* reporter Haidee Eugenio, senior media and public relation specialist Ulyssis Sabuco, *North Star* graphic artist Mike Temperante, and CNMI Nursing Association president Rowena Altures.

Molina received the UFO plaque of appreciation at Sandjuy Restaurant, where UFO officers and members converged following the rainy Liberation Day parade.

Adaza congratulated Molina and also thanked 2013 *Pistang Pinoy* main sponsor Docomo Pacific. She also extended her kudos to the untiring work of volunteers from member organizations.

"Thank you for a job well done at *Pistang Pinoy* and at the Liberation Day parade. We are TEAM—Together Everyone Achieves More. See you all again at our next activity—the inter-organization basketball league," she said. (*Mark Rabago*)

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP13-JKPL/INTERNSHIP-146**

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 19, 2013 • TIME: 2:00P.M.

**"LIBRARIAN INTERNSHIP FOR THE JOETEN-KIYU
PUBLIC LIBRARY"**

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL INQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO JKPL ADMINISTRATION AT (670) 235-7318 OR (670) 287-7318 OR FAX TO (670) 235-7550 OR EMAIL TO jkpl.admin@gmail.com

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JOHN OLIVER GONZALES
LIBRARY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>

PUBLIC NOTICE

"This notice is paid for with HUD funds by NMHC"
July 10, 2013

Governor Eloy S. Inos, Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, Marcie M. Tomokane, wish to announce that the Program Year 2013 Annual Action Plan is available for the public's review and comments. The Action Plan encompasses applications for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs in the Commonwealth. Comments may be directed to Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director, NMHC Central Office, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or by fax to (670) 234-9021. Deadline for the comment period is August 9, 2013, no later than 4:30 p.m.

The Plan is available for public review and inspection at NMHC's Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, and at the respective NMHC Field Offices in Tinian and Rota during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for CNMI holidays. Individuals needing special accommodations to review and comment on the plan must contact Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas for arrangements by calling (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

"NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer."

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL OIL
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-007-13**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the supply and delivery of Automotive Diesel Oil for its use at the Saipan International Airport/Seaport.

The information, scope of work and other considerations of the proposal is available beginning June 24, 2013 from 0800 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Interest proposers must submit one original and two copies of the sealed proposal. The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m., August 5, 2013, to the Office of the Executive Director on the aforementioned location.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
CHAIRMAN/CONTRACTING OFFICER

Tinian farmer installs conservation-friendly irrigation system

Gabriel Evangelista, a minority-owned and limited resource land-owner in the Northern Mariana Island, is the first farmer on Tinian to install an irrigation system with innovative emitters through financial assistance under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Evangelista worked with Natural Resources Conservation Service employees in the Northern Mariana Islands to follow the nine-step planning process. Alternatives were developed and evaluated before the plan was designed, and installed according to the required NRCS practice standards and specifications. This is the first irrigation system installed on Tinian through EQIP. It uses innovative emitters for root zone watering. The plan also includes windbreak design using com-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Gabriel Evangelista is the first farmer on Tinian to install an irrigation system with innovative emitters through the assistance of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

mercially viable species that produce a crop of their own, maximizing productive use of

the land.

Along with NRCS, Evangelista is working with the Northern Mariana College's Cooperative Research Education and Extension Service. The conservation practices being used on his orchard include contour cropping, conservation cover, windbreak, pest management, nutrient management, and irrigation water management. By using these NRCS practices, Evangelista is improving irrigation efficiency for water conservation, reducing water demands due to evaporation, reducing soil erosion, and reducing the demand for chemical fertilizers.

Evangelista grows betel nut, da'ok, and citrus for commercial production. His irrigation system was designed by Pam Aguon, soil conservationist in the Saipan Field Office. *(NRCS)*

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy 22nd birthday to Kimberly Marie Manibusan Lizama! We love you from the moon and back. Enjoy your day. Greetings come from Mom, Dad, Randy, Nini, Kiara Monica and the entire Malibu family.



Happy birthday to Mary "Jean" Florento! Wishing you all the great things in life, hope this day will bring you an extra share of all that makes you happiest! Lots of love, your CUC family.



Happy birthday to my one and only mother, Pelihda Dison! Have a great one mother and God bless you on your special day. I can't ask for a better mother. Love you with all my heart. Greetings come from your two grandsons who loves you so much.

Fourth Lions Club to be chartered on Tinian

After July 27, there will be four Lions Club organizations in the CNMI following the chartering of the Tinian Marianas Lions Club on that date at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

The day will also serve as the installation of charter officers and members, which is the newest addition to the Lions Clubs in the CNMI under District 204.

Saipan currently has three Lions Club organizations: the Saipan Fil-American, Saipan Marianas, and Saipan Unity Lions Club.

According to Paul Madriaga, they also hope to form one on Rota.

Madriaga is president of Saipan Marianas Lions Club, which is the sponsoring club for TMLC and appointed guiding Lion.

The other appointed guiding Lion for TMLC is region chair Ladyvir Canape of Saipan Unity Lions Club. Just last month, the Guahan Luta Lions Club held their charter night at Westin Hotel.

Madriaga said that forming the TMLC is a work in progress and it took them three years to finally charter one on Tinian.

"This is not an easy job to do; it is hard to convince someone to volunteer for communi-

ty services without shelling out from your pocket. And for that, I thank and congratulate charter president Lion Liz Hofschneder for pulling out the team in six months. She did all the hard work, along with her fellow officers Lion Rod, Jackie, Susan, and Vivian."

Joining the Lions Club, the world's biggest service organization, requires payment of annual membership dues.

"But the reward of being a Lion is there, we are just starting and we can already feel the joy of community service and the camaraderie among Lions," said Hofschneder.

Aside from Hofschneder, other officers who will be inducted on July 27 include first vice president Mikaela Sanchez, second vice president Mary Susan Cruz, secretary Rodney Cabarles, assistant secretary Vivian Hofschneder, treasurer Marilyn Mendiola, assistant treasurer Sydney Biton, tail twister Kedar Shrestha, auditor Fely Almogela, and membership chair Marie Rose Bunao.

The members are Joselito Lenteja, Vicente Requiron Jr., Aurelia Long, Phenne Cabarles, Allen Perez, Edwin Hofschneder, Michael Jay DLR Sablan, Marquina Hofschneder, Florine Hofschneder, Allen Palacios, and Maria Ce-

cilia Cabarles.

New members who will be inducted only July 27 are Tinian Mayor Ray Dela Cruz's wife Doris, CNMI Attorney General Joey Patrick San Nicolas and wife Vilma San Nicolas, Jennifer San Nicolas, Joseph Cruz, and Jonah Manuel.

Immediate past district governor Herbie Perez will be the inducting officer of the new chartered club.

District governor Annabel Dancel will join Perez in the chartering night along with other delegations from Guam. Visiting Lions from Saipan will also take part.

Hofschneder said they will have a souvenir book program to support TMLC's chartering night and to raise the initial funds for their community projects.

To advertise, contact Cabarles at 285-3637 (rodcarbarles@gmail.com) or Madriaga at 287-4501 (paul.meti@pticom.com). Deadline to submit advertisement is July 19.

To join TMLC, call Hofschneder at 287-9697 or if you are from Saipan, call Nel Atalig at 989-3858 for Saipan Marianas Lions Club, Mario Mayuga at 285-1021 for the Saipan Fil-American Lions Club, and Argie Buensalido for Saipan Unity Lions Club. *(Mark Rabago)*



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-13-021

CONSTRUCTION OF 300K GALLON TANK REPLACEMENT FOR PAPAGO TANK

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of a 300K Gallon Tank Replacement for Papago Tank for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

The selected firm shall have experience in construction and design of pre-stressed concrete and or welded steel water storage tanks. The work consists of demolition of the existing glass-fused, steel bolted 0.50 million gallon tank and its foundation; construction of the new 300K gallon tank as per approved design, foundation, tank appurtenances, and yard piping and connections.

The project is to be completed in **300 calendar days** from date of contract award.

The Bid Tender Documents may be secured, upon receipt of payment by the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card of \$100.00. The payment is non-refundable. The payment receipt shall be presented to the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on July 11, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST), at the CUC Safety & Compliance Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 14, Joeten Dandan, Commercial Building.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This Invitation for Bids and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-13-021, Construction of 300K Gallon Tank Replacement for Papago Tank" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 6, 2013**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Insufficient copies of bid submitted can be subject to technical default and rejection of bid.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred percent (100%) and a Performance Bond of one hundred percent (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. For the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract, the Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurer questions, concerns and qualification shall be governed by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code. Please refer to other bidding requirements described in Section 002113 - Instructions to Bidders.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 19, 2013 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Procurement & Supply Manager, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, Water/Wastewater, Chief Engineer via email john.riegel@cucgov.org & Christi Lazaro, Water Division Assistant Engineer via email Christi.lazaro@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the Commonwealth utilities Corporation.

ALAN FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP13-GOV-137

Architectural & Engineering Design Services for the Tinian Transfer Station

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneder through the Capital Improvement Office, is soliciting sealed proposals for the Architectural and Engineering Design Services for the Tinian Transfer Station, San Jose Village, Tinian MP, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with NMIC Section 70-30.3-305.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have obtained a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Board of Professional Licensing.

The Scope of Work (SOW) will be available on June 25, 2013 at the Capital Improvement Office, Office of the Governor. A \$25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment be presented when obtaining the package. A Pre-Proposal Meeting is scheduled on at the Governor's Office, Capitol Hill, Saipan on July 10, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the Governor's Conference Room. The project completion time for this project is 150 calendar days. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia, P.E., Project Manager at fax no. (670) 664-2408 or via email at balajadiaelizabeth@hotmail.com no later than Thursday, July 18, 2013, 4:30 p.m., local time.

Proposals shall not exceed twenty five (25) pages. Note that a firm or company that submits as a prime consultant cannot submit as a subconsultant on another proposal. However, subconsultants may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Qualification and Experience on similar projects (25%)
2. Project Approach (25%)
3. Work load and resources to accomplish the work in the required time frame (25%)
4. Past performance with the CNMI Government on similar projects (25%)

Proposals must be sealed and marked by July 25, 2013. For proposals within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than July 25, 2013. Proposals located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitted an Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to submit proposal must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 4:30 p.m., July 25, 2013, local time, and maybe submitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via email to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed proposals must be marked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal services of the foreign country no later than July 25, 2013 AND must be received no later than August 2, 2013. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

The successful proposer(s) will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement and Supply Regulations Section 3-301.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become the property of the Government.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

Learn about dolphins, whales in NMI



Dr. Erin Oleson, seated, records local cetaceans.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Asia Pacific Academy of Sciences, Science Education, and Environmental Management will host a science-focused public gathering on local whales and dolphins next Thursday, July 18, at the American Memorial Park auditorium, Saipan, from 6:30pm to 8pm.

Everyone is invited to attend and learn about the region's various species of marine mammals from Dr. Erin Oleson, lead scientist for the Cetacean Research Program at the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center in Honolulu.

Oleson oversees the program's mission to assess the abundance and status, including potential human-caused impacts, for all whale and dolphin (cetacean) populations within the Pacific Islands Region, including those near Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Oleson's research focuses on developing new passive acoustic technology to monitor the occurrence and behavior of whales and dolphins in remote regions or in situations where traditional visual methods are ineffective.

In 2011 Oleson was awarded the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers for her work to bring innovative technological solutions to fill critical data gaps in cetacean science in the Pacific region.

Research within the Cetacean Program focuses on pairing traditional survey techniques, including ship-based and small boat surveys for cetaceans, with new technologies, such as long-term acoustic recorders, animal-carried tags, and development of new autonomous sensors to develop new techniques for assessing cetacean populations.

A copy of her PowerPoint slides from last year's talk is posted on the APASEEM website, www.apaseem.org.



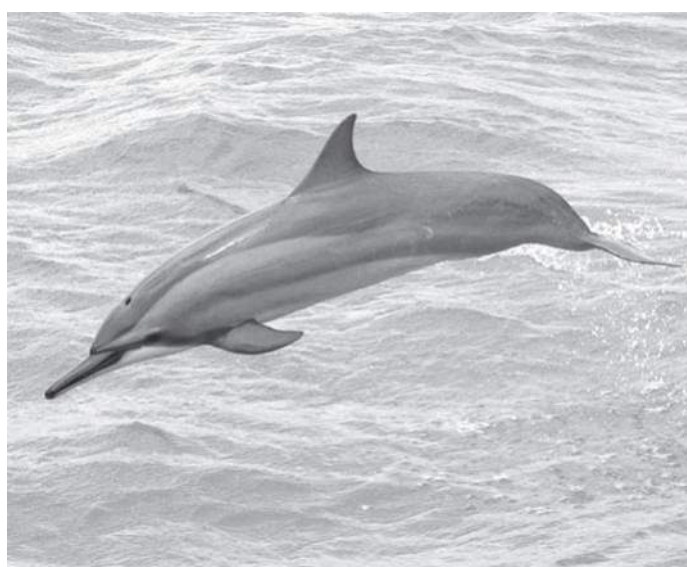
A humpback whale breaches the water.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

With support from the U.S. Navy, the Cetacean Program has been conducting small boat surveys in Guam, Rota, and Saipan since 2010. To date these surveys have documented 20 species of cetaceans in the waters of the Marianas Archipelago, a figure that doubles the number known just two years ago. In addition, two long-term acoustic recorders have been deployed near Saipan and Tinian to monitor the presence of

cetaceans year-round for comparison with vessel surveys.

Oleson's presentation will discuss some of the program's findings from the recent surveys and acoustic research in the Marianas. One year and five months of data available so far indicate the presence of several dolphin species, Bryde's, humpback, and fin whales, at least three species of beaked whale, along with possible new species detected by this year's acoustic



A spinner dolphin.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

cal probes.

As at all APASEEM talks, questions from the audience are strongly encouraged. For more information visit the www.apaseem.org website or write to us via apaseem@gmail.com. (APASEEM)

Water outage in Koblerville on Thurs., Fri.

Residents of Koblerville will experience a nine-hour partial water outage on Thursday, July 11, 2013, and Friday, July 12, 2013, from 8am to 5pm on both days, according to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

The purpose of this water outage is to allow CUC's contractor, AIC Marianas Inc. to replace non-working gate valves along Alaguan St., Asentukon St., and Adobu Dr. This project is part of the Koblerville gate valve and fire hydrant replacement project funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The partial water outage on Thursday will affect residents living on Alaguan St., Adobu Dr., Asentukon St., Atmayas St., Ahu Dr., Paksiu Ct., and Charakiles Ct.

The partial water outage on Friday will affect residents living on Adobu Dr. and Alaguan St.

CUC's operations team and AIC Marianas will be working hard to return service to customers in these affected areas as soon as possible. Because of the scale of the work to be performed, CUC recommends that motorists take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the construction sites.

For more information, contact project manager Yvonne Cabrera at (670) 235-7025-30 Ext. 324. (CUC)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 10, 2005

Poker bill deferred again

The House of Representatives deferred action on a poker control and licensing bill because it reportedly contains provisions that contradict the poker initiative that the Saipan Chamber of Commerce had submitted for this year's polls. House members also said there is a possibility that those who signed the poker petition may not all be qualified voters. The law requires that a popular initiative is backed or is petitioned by at least 20 percent of registered voters. There are about 16,000 voters in the CNMI.

Martin promises livewire concert tonight

An eight-piece orchestra. Three backup singers. A visual effects engineer to provide spectacular background effects. The genius of veteran musical director Louie Ocampo. And Manila's concert king himself, Martin Nievera. What more could you ask for? The entire package speaks of a high-caliber show that will surely be a first for Saipan and organizers are now promising a livewire performance by Nievera himself. The singer arrived yesterday for tonight's one-night concert and he is promising his audience a great show-one that he says will be the best among his off-island concerts. Nievera said in a media conference yesterday afternoon that the concert on Saipan would even be better than the show he did in Guam a few years back because this is the first time that all his musical crew were included in the package and were flown here.

July 10, 2006

Flexible electric rate to replace fuel surcharge

The newly proposed power rates will eradicate the fuel surcharge to replace it with the more flexible fuel electric rate, which may vary from month to month depending on the cost of fuel. According to the Economists.com, the fuel electric rate would ensure full government recovery of its fuel expenses. Robert Young, managing director for the U.S.-based consulting firm, noted that the fuel surcharge has failed to do this, as evident in CUC's constant need for fuel subsidy from the central government. "Even with the fuel surcharge, the government was still paying \$2 million a month for CUC's fuel," Young said.

Winds, rains cause power outages in many areas on Saipan

Winds and heavy rains brought by Tropical Disturbance 05W downed a utility pole in Kagman and many power lines in some areas, causing power outages in many villages on Saipan Friday and Saturday. Commonwealth Utilities Corp. spokesperson Pamela Mathis, in a telephone interview with Saipan Tribune yesterday, said power outages happened Friday night until Saturday night in Capitol Hill, Kagman, As Lito Road, Chalan Kanoa, and As Matuis. Mathis said it was worse in As Matuis as winds were stronger in that area that toppled one utility pole. Mathis said CUC crew had to wait until the winds subsided before they could fix the pole.

July 10, 2007

Runoff polls initiative makes it to Nov. ballot

CNMI voters will decide this November whether governors and lieutenant governors must claim a majority vote in future general elections. The House of Representatives yesterday approved Senate amendments to House Legislative Initiative 15-16. The initiative will now head to the Commonwealth Election Commission for placement on the ballot for the Nov. 3 midterm election. This is the second initiative to pass the Legislature. The first one was H.L.I. 15-1, which would strip the Northern Marianas College of its licensing power over privately owned postsecondary educational institutions in the CNMI. This authority would be given to a new licensing agency.

'Expect prices of goods to follow wage hike'

Consumers would have to expect higher prices of goods after July 25 when a 50-cent per hour federal minimum wage hike takes effect in the CNMI. "Employers and businesses have no choice but to comply with the federal law. Smart managers need to revisit their operations. They have to look at personnel and all aspects of operations. If you take all these into account, it is a certainty that it will affect the prices of goods and services. It's a cycle. So these changes shall take place once this wage hike takes effect," said Chamber president Juan T. Guerrero in an interview.

'If pensions are cut, then also cut gov't budget'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidEE_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

If the parties in a Retirement Fund settlement deal proceed with a 25-percent cut in retirees' pension, including those receiving \$10,000 or less a year, then the government should also share the burden by implementing a 25-percent across-the-board cut in agencies' budget, according to Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan) yesterday.

"It is not fair that our retirees, especially those getting only \$10,000 or less, will get 25 percent cut. Here we are in government, we continue to get our normal budget," Maratita told Saipan Tribune.

Maratita was one of the lawmakers that attended a joint leadership forum with Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider last week.

It was there that Maratita and other lawmakers got clarification on some of the issues related to the Fund settlement agreement to which the government is a party.

Maratita said the amount tak-

en from the 25 percent across-the-board budget cut should instead be given to the Fund, as well as to the members of the defined benefit plan, who would only get their contribution amount back but not the interests.

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero (Cov-Saipan) and other lawmakers wanted the percentage of cuts to be commensurate to the amount of pension received. Leon Guerrero



Maratita

said those receiving \$10,000 or less should be exempted from the cuts, while those receiving \$50,000 or more a year should get the full 25 percent cut.

Lawmakers, including Maratita and Rep. Mario Taitano (IR-Saipan), also questioned the constitutionality of cutting retirement benefits by 25 percent. She said it could only be "deferment."

"That is still an unanswered question," she said.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when sought for comment, said the 25 percent was a "cut," not a "deferment."

Demapan said, "The administration recognizes the constitutional issue."

"That is why part of the settlement agreement is that after the settlement agreement has been drafted, the attorneys for the plaintiffs will then have to contact the retirees to explain the terms of the settlement and then ask each retiree whether they choose to opt-in with the proposed cut or not. The next decision following that will depend on how many retirees opt-in versus how many opt-out," he said.

Demapan added that the administration "cannot unilaterally do anything in this situation because this is a settlement. All the parties need to agree on every decision."

The governor personally participated in a three-day settlement negotiation with the parties in the Betty Johnson class action against the Fund and the CNMI government, resulting in a tentative deal reached.

NMC-CREES offers summer internships for NMI high school juniors and seniors

The Northern Marianas College's Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service is encouraging incoming CNMI high school juniors and seniors for school year 2013-2014 to apply for its four-week summer internship program.

The internship will begin in late July. As part of the internship program, students will explore and learn about the fields of agriculture and family consumer sciences. NMC-CREES has different divisions for students to intern including ento-

mology, plant pathology, nutrition, food quality and safety, 4H, hydroponics, and outreach.

Internship positions vary throughout the three NMC-CREES offices and facilities on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. Note that applicants must also be a U.S. citizen and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

The deadline to apply for the internship is no later than 4:30pm on Thursday, July 17, 2013. Application forms are available for download at <http://crees.org>, or may be picked up

at the NMC-CREES offices in Building F at the NMC Saipan campus, and at the administrative offices of the NMC Rota and Tinian instructional sites.

For more information, contact Joaquin Deleon Guerrero at NMC-CREES at 234-5498 Ext. 1707.

The internship program is made possible by funds from the Agriculture in the American Pacific Professional Development Project and the Resident Instruction in the Caribbean and Pacific Islands grants. (NMC)

Pacifica Insurance, JMC tie up in car service giveaway

Pacifica Insurance has introduced another giveaway promotion to entice the community to insure with them. In partnership with Joeten Motor Co., the 39-year-old locally-owned insurance agency launched its giveaway promotion titled "Pacifica Car Service Giveaway" in May of this year.

"We are thrilled to be partnering up with a company like Joeten Motors in this giveaway promotion. They don't take shortcuts when it comes to servicing vehicles, which is exactly what I look for, all in the best interest of our clients," said Pacifica EVP/GM Shirley Sablan. "These promotions are intended to keep our existing customers happy and to draw others to insure with us. We will continue to find ways to reward our patrons."

The Giveaway will run throughout the year through a monthly drawing program. Only names of individuals and businesses that hold a policy with Pacifica will be entered for a chance to win.

The prize giveaway, which is specifically referred to as Gold Service Package at JMC, include: change engine oil and filter, adjust

tire pressure, check and top off all fluid levels, install engine treatment, install windshield washer solvent, lube hinges and perform 28 multi-point inspection. The package is valued at \$70.

"Winners of this giveaway promotion will find satisfaction in both our services and our products. Our mechanics are certified and are highly qualified. The products that we use on the vehicles we service are premium," said JMC general manager Matt Deets.



pacifica
Insurance
Underwriters, Inc.

To learn more about the Pacifica Car Service Giveaway promotion, call Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. at 234-6267/7722/7310 or visit their office located at Joeten Center in Susupe. You may also visit www.pacificains.com/carservicegiveaway or send an inquiry via email to piui@pacificains.com. Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. offers insurance coverage for auto, homes, businesses, marine, life, dental, vision, and health. It is also a general agent for Century Insurance Company, Tokio Marine Pacific Insurance Limited, and Pacific Guardian Life. (Pacifica Insurance)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

4TH OF JULY BARBECUE

Maeda Pacific Corp. holds a barbecue party to celebrate the 4th of July at Ypao Beach, Tumon, Guam. The party was attended by MPC president Tom Nielsen, vice president Tsutomu Yamakawa, and general manager Miguel Rangel; the company's engineers and staff, together with their families.



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013

POSITION: Accountant
SALARY: Negotiable

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two years experience in accounting strongly preferred. Minimum two years experience as a supervisory level employee qualification preferred but not required.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013

POSITION: HR Clerk
SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum 2 years experience in human resources field preferred. Must have a personable, friendly personality. Ability to explain various laws and regulations to the employees in a friendly manner.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013

POSITION: IT Technician
SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two years experience in computer/network maintenance field required. Formal education/training in IT or Design related subjects highly preferred.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013
Wage/Negotiable

POSITION: Chinese GRO
SALARY: Minimum

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum 2 years experience in a hotel front desk and/or concierge position strongly preferred. Proficiency in Chinese language strongly preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and ready smile.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013

POSITION: Front Desk Clerk
SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013

POSITION: Bell Hop
SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two 2 years experience in a hotel front desk and/or concierge position strongly preferred. Proficiency in Japanese, Korean, Chinese and/or Russian language strongly preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and a ready smile.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013

POSITION: Server (Part-time)
SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. The position may require employ to receive certain food handler related health examination and clearance before hire and continue to receive such examination and clearance annually as a condition to their continued employment. Minimum 2 years in food service preferred. Friendly personality, willingness to serve and a ready smiling individual highly preferred.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013
Wage/Negotiable

POSITION: Cook (Chinese)
SALARY: Minimum

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) year experience in culinary experience. Applicants with formal training/education in culinary arts strongly preferred. Position may require employee to receive food handler related health examinations and clearance as condition to their continued employment.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013
Wage/Negotiable

POSITION: Mechanic
SALARY: Minimum

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum of 2 years experience in mechanical related field required. Formal training in mechanical repair/engineering highly preferred.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013
Wage/Negotiable

POSITION: Prim/Lifeguard
SALARY: Minimum

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. Obtaining a lifeguard certification may be required for continued employment. Must have friendly and outgoing personality.

OPEN DATE: July 5, 2013
CLOSE DATE: July 12, 2013
Wage/Negotiable

POSITION: Activity/Water Park
SALARY: Minimum

Qualifications:

High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two years experience in hotel outlet operations, and Water Park management/supervision highly preferred.

Applications are available at the Security Office next to the Wave Jungle Water Park. Applications must be completed at the time of submission. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered. Skills testing may be required for some positions. Saipan World Resort is an equal Opportunity Employer. For more information, please contact Human Resources Office at (670) 234-5900 ext. 266/576.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Senate passage lives up to nation's commitment

The U.S. Senate delivered a gift to the nation last week in the form of an immigration reform bill that has the potential to fulfill the promise of what it means to be an American for millions of longtime U.S. residents who are stuck in limbo.

We are not so dewy-eyed as to believe that members of the Senate acted for purely patriotic reasons.

Republicans who got behind the measure know their party has a dim future as long as Hispanic Americans believe the GOP is blocking immigration reform. Democrats and President Obama, meanwhile, need to show Hispanic voters that they are capable of enacting reform—and reaping the political benefit in coming elections.

Nor do we think passage of an immigration reform bill by Congress is a sure thing.

The Senate measure faces obstinate opposition in the House of Representatives, where Speaker of the House John Boehner has already signaled that he will bow to the wishes of his Republican caucus no matter which way the chamber's majority is leaning. This means that if most GOP members don't support comprehensive reform, the measure won't come to a vote even if it could pass with a combination of Democratic and Republican votes.

Talk about a party shooting itself in the foot! This is both short-sighted and self-defeating. It caters to the hard-right sentiment of voters who control GOP primaries, but it puts the party on a permanent losing trajectory with the rising number of Hispanic voters. That's a losing proposition if ever there was one.

But for the moment, set aside the bleak scenarios and take time out on this most patriotic of holidays to savor the moment. This is a nation of immigrants, as those who signed the Declaration of Independence in 1776 well knew. Over the years, America's vitality has been refreshed time and again by waves of immigrants who brought their aspirations and their energies to our shores.

As Sen. Marco Rubio so eloquently put it in his remarks on the Senate floor just before the bill went to a vote, "They have come because in the land of their birth, their dreams were bigger than their opportunities." And so they came to America, to embrace a country big enough to encompass those dreams and generous enough to allow them to be fulfilled.

In the upper chamber, Sen. Rubio was instrumental, first, in writing the bill in a bipartisan effort with seven other senators, and then in getting it passed.

In the lower chamber, U.S. Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart has been waging a quiet but determined effort behind the scenes to give immigration reform a chance. Like Mr. Rubio, he realizes that his party has a big stake in the outcome. And he knows that the problem will persist even if Congress fails to deal with it.

"Ignoring that reality does not make it go away," Rep. Diaz-Balart told a panel discussion in Washington last week. May the holdouts in the GOP embrace reality.

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STARGAZERS HOLD ONLINE CONTEST
TO NAME PLUTO'S TWO NEW MOONS...

Peng's panda

Peng Liyuan is her name. She is the dean of the People's Liberation Art Academy. She is a renowned contemporary folk singer and performing artist. She is also the wife of Chinese President Xi Jinping, referred to as China's first lady in the media.

We write from panda country, having trekked on a 40-hour jaunt from Shenyang of cold *Dong Bei* to the tropical humidity of the Sichuan plateau, its rivers and gorges, ranges and hills. Weather forecast for the next 10 days is a daily dose of rain and thunderstorm. Save for the humidity that creeps under one's skin, the temperature is vintage Saipan at 72 to 83 degrees Fahrenheit. It is "wet and warm," a phrase popularized by grunts in *Good Morning, Vietnam*, often used to explain the number of Afro&AmerAsian children left behind.

The panda is the cuddly bamboo chewing bear in Sichuan's foothills and when we are not demonizing shrewd slit-eyed Chinese businessman and politicians, we glorify the likes of folksy but NY Times-rich *lao ye* ex-Premier Wen Jiabao as *xiaopanda* (little panda). Now, the panda girth of President Xi Jinping is extolled, which is just fine since we wear comparable pant size. In any case, "panda" has become a brand name for many things, and in Chengdu, there is Mike's Panda tea house, panda doll house, panda saloon, panda bear toys of all sizes, etc., etc., etc.

We recently revived the image of the *queue*, the braided pigtail worn as a symbol of the last dynasty's high fashion in hairdo as well as a covenant of Qing fealty. The public cutting of it became a protest symbol at the turn into the 20th century, not unlike the burning of the draft card during the war in Vietnam. The word in English refers to an orderly lining up of folks for the same service.

Another Chinese word, the *kowtow*, made it to the English dictionary, referring to the act of kneeling and forehead touching the ground to signify submission, now used to describe excessive subservient obeisance.

Other Chinese words that made it to the English lexicon include: yen for craving, typhoon-tycoon-taipan, the verb shanghai as abduction by trickery, the "*qipao* for she" (EnglisCh, in case one wonders) and the *cheongsam* for Sam, ketchup, chow, chopsticks, gung-ho, to name a few. Favorite phrase: no can do (it's Hawaiian too).

In 1970, we learned of China syndrome, the notion of a nuclear meltdown that burns to the earth's core all the way to China. An Oscar-nominated movie of the same title told of two TV reporters discovering lax safety procedures at a nuclear reactor leading to a meltdown. Later, someone suggested that the phrase applied to China's inability to regulate the safety of its nuclear program. That would have been in the same league as calling the country a Bamboo Curtain to distinguish China from Russia's Iron Curtain!

Branding is where we are heading. Jackie Kennedy's pageboy hairdo became a craze when I was a child, just because Jackie wore

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



it. Peng Liyuan has avoided the limelight since she married Xi Jinping, save the adulation she gets on her own right as an artist. With China enamored with things Cartier and Bvlgari, Valenti and Gucci, and all other brands resident in and around Saipan's Galleria, China desperately needs a brand of her own that will not siphon revenues to Champ Elysée and Milan, Park Avenue and Burbank, Ginza and Island Seoul on the Han.

Peng could very well translate to a new brand name, discreet but sturdy, mainstream but fashionable, accessible and affordable. If the first lady and the President join up to a brand it would be Peng's Panda, a natural in Sichuan!

Don't snicker! We have Saipanda, don't we? OK, it is a failed brand, but how will you know until you tried? Besides, one of my kid students in Shenyang logged airline time on a recent trip to the island by the lagoon, and he returned frustrated that the only panda he saw were in posters! Well, at least, China tourists are showing up on Saipan.

It is the overwrought panda that needs assist from Peng. And she is in good form to do that. Though a civilian member of the People's Liberation Army with a rank comparable to a major general, Peng is usually in uniform when performing for the armed services, and knowing that PLA attire, along with fatigues and khakis from almost all military services around the world are available cheaply in the China market favored by farmers and youth, making PLA chic might humanize the armed services that so much nettles Uncle Sam's fear syndrome.

Mind you, we have limited contact with the PLA, for they manage to stay incognito in domestic affairs (two generals do sit in the Politburo), leaving the civilian politicians to wage domestic challenges, but the uniformed personnel show up at disaster related emergencies. SWAT teams seem capable to handle routine matters.

Of course, there's Xizang (Tibet), and now, Xinjiang, that hosts liberation troops to Uncle Sam and terrorists to Beijing. Their brand is spelled in Sanskrit, with Arabic undertones. That's a writing we are not familiar with. (How do you like an English teacher ending with a hanging preposition?)

We'll be heading towards Sichuan's Tibetan Autonomous Prefectures. Stay tuned.

Exhausted: It pays to regroup!

Troubling the disorienting and sinking feeling that the dreams of our people of homeownership and a fair shot at opportunities under an advanced economy may be headed into the sunset.

This need not be the case!

We can derail the impending disaster from turning into total paralysis. It's all in the palm of our hands! Let's regroup with powerful political resolve to meet the challenge henceforth.

It means focusing on reviving the last economic pillar we know of as tourism. This is our Holy Grail or savior to reviving economic recovery, albeit difficult.

Indeed, in the daily conduct of government, there comes a time for retreat when all must reassess the trip forward. The break is vital to recalibrating the way we do things otherwise known as "paradigms." It's a good time to regroup before moving forward once more.

With renewed paradigms, we should be able to exit through the dense jungle of fiscal hardship (however gradual it may be) by focusing factually with conviction on our last economic pillar: tourism. It's good to explore what needs to be done at this juncture to strengthen it at the base. It's time to walk the walk and talk the talk, so to speak.

Tourism's contribution

Our first order of business: Keep the islands clean and safe while conveying indelible island hospitality with a simple "buenas." May I illustrate why the dire need to walk the walk and talk the talk on tourism.

Recent statistics show some 389,475 visitors came to the islands from South Korea, Japan, China, Russia and other nearby countries. Direct revenue impact (hotel and on island expenditure) is about \$339,710,765. The industry's indirect impact using a multiplier of 1.5 percent is about \$509,566,147.

Tourism's total impact (direct/indirect) is \$849,276,912. Taxes: BGRT and HOT: \$49,561,832. Total impact including taxes: \$898,838,744. It's almost a billion dollars annually. It goes to show that the CNMI can't simply treat the industry with the usual casual attitude of *mañana*. This paradigm must

shift in major strides too.

FYI: Hong Kong lures some 48 million visitors from mainland China annually. Diversifying our market should enable the CNMI a greater share of tourists from a huge market nearby.

Thus, it makes sense that we unite behind efforts to rebuild the industry as it begins its upward track to recovery. Our role as hosts of these isles is to keep the island immaculately clean, safe and convey the island hospitality loaded with respect, courtesy, and kindness. It's the lifeblood of the local economy. What we make collectively turns into "Ours To Share."

Tourism: A livelihood

Tourism is our livelihood as islanders in this archipelago. The islands have inimitable assets in its natural beauty to turn into its own benefit. It is the vehicle to reviving revenue generation that enables our earmarking revenues to pay for essential public services. Services include the education of our children, healthcare and safety throughout the community, among others.

If I may reiterate: It is the last economic pillar and foundation of these islands. It makes it highly imperative to regroup and reset our buttons to ensure its revival.

Our elected officials should proactively lead the way, leading by example. Browbeaten our folks may be, they'd move about when they see their local officials walking the talk. We must invite all sectors to jointly revive the tourism industry. It's our livelihood and all roads lead toward re-awakening and fostering a powerful sense of community to revive it.

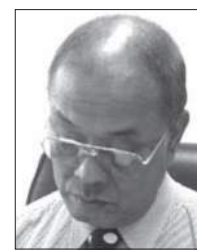
The industry is on a resurgent track (rebound) and how fitting it is to regroup to ensure it stays the course to full recovery. To ignore it is to place the mat of eventual collective destruction right at our front door. The CNMI can't afford a casual attitude on this industry at this juncture. It's a do-or-die situation. Let's pick the former so we move forward together.

Hotel renovation

One issue I find most pleasing (in my many visits between Asia, Australia, and the U.S.) is the ambiance or atmosphere found in hotels. A beautifully designed landscape, pleasant

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

rooms that meet international standard, superb cocktail and culinary services offered hotel customers are instant attractions to visitors. Hawaii is loaded with tons of Aloha. We could do it here too with mega-tons of heartwarming "buenas" and "welcome."

If we have to take the essence of tourism into the classrooms, we should do so given the inevitable ability of young people to learn personal hygiene (cleanliness) and carry it with them throughout life. Teaching them why they must stay clean, importance of safety and reviving the indelible spirit of island hospitality would make our dealings with friends from near and far a win-win relationship.

MVA and the hotel association could earmark some seed funding to begin a flower-lei weaving program with the *man-amku*. They spend worthy time on flower leis for our visitors while making some money for their incidental needs. Hotels should take the lead and give their guests flower leis at dinnertime. MVA ought to do the same, be it shell or real flower leis to be given to new arrivals. The seed funding should be a revolving fund all year 'round.

Too, we should open our village fiestas to visitors so we make reciprocal assimilation a win-win venture. Slow the process may be it should do a whale of good as we move forward on a collective basis to rebuild the last remaining economic pillar: tourism! Let's do community and media blitz to reinforce the importance of reviving and strengthening the last industry. We are what we make of our dreams and realizing our dream in this regard is in the palm of our hands. Let's walk the walk and talk the talk.

Pope John Paul II and the trouble with miracles

"No testimony is sufficient to establish a miracle, unless the testimony be of such a kind that its falsehood would be more miraculous than the fact which it endeavors to establish."—David Hume

Last week the Vatican announced that a meeting of cardinals and bishops had ruled that the late Pope John Paul II was responsible for a second miracle, and thus the way was cleared for sainthood.

The Congregation for the Causes of Saints decided he had cured a woman from Costa Rica in 2011 after a panel of doctors apparently ruled that her recovery was otherwise inexplicable.

There's the rub, of course. There are many medical results we do not understand. Spontaneous remission of cancer, for example, occurs in a reliable but small fraction of the population; no immediate explanation can be presented on a case-by-case basis.

Attributing that lack of understanding to the intercession of a dead pope is a huge step, and it illustrates a fundamental difference between "evidence" in religion and "evidence" in science.

The physicist Richard Feynman pointed out that in science, when we have an idea, we try to prove it wrong as well as right. This is an essential feature of scientific skepticism that helps us avoid the trap of interpreting accidental coincidences as significant results.

In every experiment, anomalies occur. We accept such randomness in science and test to see if any purported exciting new result

is statistically significant before we then begin to examine it more carefully to see if we might be misinterpreting something mundane as something exciting.

If, on the other hand, one seeks out "testimony miracles," there is a good chance one will find them. This is because one is making a presumption that miracles occur. More fundamentally, it ignores the advice of Hume, written long ago, rephrased by Carl Sagan somewhat later in a punchier way as: "Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence."

Another example from Sagan is more to the point here, perhaps. Consider the miraculous apparitions of the Virgin Mary that were purported to have occurred at Lourdes, France, in 1858. Since that time millions of pilgrims have visited Lourdes to bathe in the waters and be cured. The Catholic Church keeps careful records on such claimed cures, and more than 60, including cancer remissions, have been ruled as otherwise inexplicable and thus miraculous.

The problem, however, is that when one examines the spontaneous remission rates in the general population from diseases such as cancer, the rate is actually higher than that reported among the Lourdes pilgrims. (Sagan pointed this out, but others have also compared medical reports and Lourdes reports.) Thus, if you bathe in the Lourdes waters, you apparently have a smaller likelihood of being spontaneously cured than others who have not.

However, if you are one of the faithful and go to Lourdes, and

By LAWRENCE M. KRAUSS

Los Angeles Times



Lawrence Krauss, a physicist, is director of the Origins Project at Arizona State University. His latest book is A Universe from Nothing. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

later your disease goes into remission, there is no way I, or anyone else, will be likely to convince you it was just a coincidence.

If that fact makes you feel safer, if it makes you feel that someone is watching out for you, perhaps there is no real harm done. However, when a major institution such as the Catholic Church is willing to attribute otherwise unexplained events to miracles, it strains credulity so much as to encourage skepticism about its other claims.

Ultimately the acceptance of miracles—events where the laws of nature apparently break down—are one example of a "God of the Gaps" argument that ultimately ends up building tensions between science and religion. If inexplicable events are used as evidence for God, what happens when later science comes along and provides a natural explanation? When the gap goes away, where is the room left for God?

My case shows need to abolish death penalty

By KIRK BLOODSWORTH
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Almost exactly 20 years ago, I became the first death row prisoner in the United States to clear my name through DNA evidence.

The crime for which I was convicted was the brutal rape and murder of a 9-year-old girl named Dawn Hamilton. My community in Maryland was devastated and needed someone to blame, so the district attorney's office built a capital case against me based on a few flimsy pieces of so-called evidence.

My arrest followed my neighbor's call to the police, in which she claimed that I resembled the sketch shown on TV—a sketch that had been crafted through the eyewitness accounts of two young boys. I didn't look much like the culprit they described, and neither did the real killer, who was identified through the very DNA evidence that saved me.

I spent nine years in prison wondering if I'd be executed for a

crime I did not commit. After my release, it wasn't easy to piece back together a normal life.

But a turning point came when I saw how sharing the story of my innocence influenced the way others viewed the death penalty. I realized then that the best way to move forward would be to help prevent what happened to me from ever happening to anyone else.

Since the death penalty was reinstated in the United States in 1976, 142 of us have been exonerated from death row. That's 142 innocent people who were saved, some at the last minute. Today, I work alongside many of those exonerated men and women at Witness to Innocence, where we share our stories with the world to advocate against the death penalty.

Thankfully, the death penalty is outlawed in 18 states. The sixth state in six years to abolish capital punishment is my home state of Maryland, the state that almost executed me.

But there is much work still to be done. In the last year, North Carolina repealed the Racial Justice Act, which allowed for death penalty appeals based on racial bias in jury selection. In Florida,

which has the largest number of death row exonerations of any state, Gov. Rick Scott just signed the Timely Justice Act, which limits the appeals process for death row prisoners. Many of my fellow exonerees owe their lives to multiple appeals, making this law far from just.

We should acknowledge by now that our criminal justice system is extremely flawed. Cases like mine are rife with eyewitness misidentification and prosecutorial misconduct. There are tremendous racial disparities in the application of the death penalty.

Plus, by nature, humans make mistakes. While we can't change the human conditions, we can ensure that the humans who run our government don't make fatal ones.

The only true path to justice is to put the death penalty to death.

Kirk Bloodsworth is advocacy director of Witness to Innocence. He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

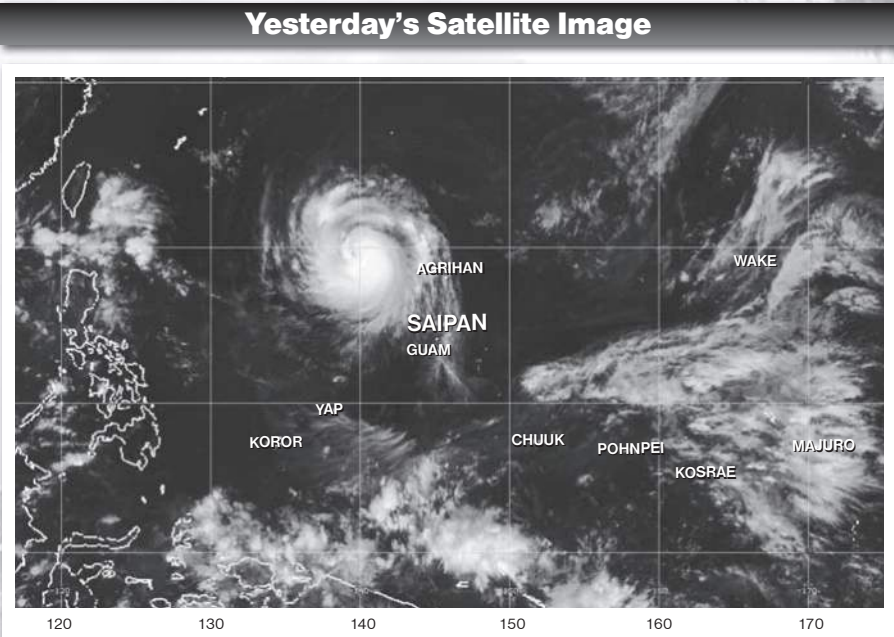
5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Micronesia		
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼80
Palau	Showers	▲86 ▼76
Yap	Showers	▲91 ▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲87 ▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87 ▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲87 ▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲86 ▼80

Around The Globe		
Auckland	Showers	▲55 ▼45
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲77 ▼71
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼75
London	Mostly Sunny	▲74 ▼53
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲88 ▼68
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼79
Melbourne	Sunny	▲61 ▼39
Miami	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼77
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼74
Osaka	Sunny	▲91 ▼76
Paris	Sunny	▲81 ▼55
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲81 ▼73
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲85 ▼68
Salem	Sunny	▲90 ▼56
San Francisco	Sunny	▲70 ▼54
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲86 ▼75
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲93 ▼77
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼76

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
4:12 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
8:59 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
4:14 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
11:03 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Soulik (07W) is centered 505 miles northwest of Saipan at 20N140E and is moving west at 13 mph with maximum sustained winds of 85 mph. Heavy rain and isolated thunderstorms are occurring within 100 miles of the center with scattered showers and a few thunderstorms extending up to 280 miles from the center. For more information on Soulik, see the public advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WWMY80 PGUM and the warnings issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW. A weak surface trough runs southward from 7N149E to the equator at 148E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are located southwest of Chuuk between 5N and the equator from 140E to 150E. Low-level convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Koror and Yap south of a line from 5N130E to 2N140E. Low-level convergence ahead of a trade-wind surge is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Marshall Islands between 14N and 1N from 163E to 174E and north of Chuuk and Pohnpei within 90 miles of a line from 11N151E to 11N163E. An upper-level low centered northwest of Wake Island near 25N165E is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Wake Island within 90 miles of a line from 19N164E to 25N169E.

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:53 AM	6:52 PM	Today	7:15 AM	8:07 PM
Thursday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM	Thursday	8:04 AM	8:47 PM
Friday	5:54 AM	6:52 PM	Friday	8:53 AM	9:27 PM
Saturday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM	Saturday	9:42 AM	10:06 PM
Sunday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM	Sunday	10:31 AM	10:46 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

■ **CAMPUS BULLETIN**
Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7		UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7	
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5		UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily	
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily		UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7		UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7	
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily		UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily	
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily		UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily	
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily						
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)					ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN				
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily		UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5	
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily		UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7		DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily	
					DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1		OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7						
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily		SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
					OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7	
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7		OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5		3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	1, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN				
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6		MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7	
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7		3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)					KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN				
XF1734	4:15pm	10:30pm	4 Every other week eff May 16		SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN				
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN		XF1733	11:20am	3:25pm	4 Every other week eff May 16	
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN						
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM		MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM		PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT		DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT	
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM	
			1, 5, 7 via GUM		UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM	
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	2, 5 via GUM		OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN		OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)					UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM	
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN		HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN	
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN		OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
					UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM	
					UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM	

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Millions more immigrants under the US Senate bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—Landmark immigration legislation passed by the Senate would remake America's workforce from the highest rungs to the lowest and bring many more immigrants into the economy, from elite technology companies to restaurant kitchens and rural fields.

In place of the unauthorized workers now commonly found laboring in lower-skilled jobs in the agriculture or service industries, many of these workers would be legal, some of them permanent-resident green card holders or even citizens.

Illegal immigration across the border with Mexico would slow, but legal immigration would increase markedly.

That's the portrait that emerges from recent analyses

of the far-reaching bill passed last month by the Senate with the backing of the White House. Although the bill aims to secure the borders, track people overstaying their visas and deny employers the ability to hire workers here illegally, it by no means seeks to choke off immigration. Indeed, the U.S. population over the next two decades would be likely to increase by 15 million people above the probable level if no changes were made to immigration laws, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Even after decades of growth in the U.S. foreign-born population, the added increase could be felt in ways large and small around the country, from big cities that would absorb even more diversity to small towns that

may still be adjusting to current immigrant arrivals.

"That is baked into the basic premise of the bill," said Doris Meissner, a senior fellow at the Migration Policy Institute, "which is that you need to provide legal avenues for people to come to the country both in longer-term temporary and in permanent visa categories in order to meet the needs of the future and avert the incentives for illegal immigration."

The level of immigration under the legislation has been a political issue in the debate and will probably continue to be disputed in the weeks ahead as the House's GOP majority wrestles with how to respond to the Senate bill.

The House timetable is unclear, with majority Republicans scheduled to hold a closed-door meeting on Wednesday to plan their next steps.

Senate Majority leader Harry Reid urged Speaker John Boehner on Monday to allow a vote on the Senate-passed measure, but that is unlikely, at least in the short run. Boehner has said previously he will only place legislation on the floor that has the support of at least half of his party's rank and file, a formula that so far, appears to rule out the path to citizenship that is at the core of the Senate-passed measure.

The Senate bill's treatment of immigrants already in the U.S. illegally is distinct from the system it would create for legal immigration.

Working out a comprehensive GOP House response could be complex because the Senate version itself is complicated. It would expand various temporary and permanent visa categories, shut down others and create still other new ones. Some visa programs would be capped and some wouldn't. Some would expand or contract in response to demand.

Opponents led by Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., have forecast



The Capitol is seen in Washington, early Monday, July 8, 2013, as Congress returns to work following the Independence Day recess. **AP**

of factors, including the economic downturn and greater security measures in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks. Although up-to-date annual figures on illegal immigration are hard to come by, one recent study published in the International Migration Review said that close to 400,000 people entered illegally in 2009, either by crossing the border unlawfully or overstaying temporary visas. An author of the study, Robert Warren, said that figure probably has not changed dramatically in the years since.

The Senate bill offers a 13-year path to citizenship for the estimated 11 million immigrants already here illegally, the most contentious element of the legislation since many House conservatives oppose granting citizenship to people who broke U.S. laws to be here. But that aspect of the legislation has little impact on the overall population size since the people involved are already in the country even if they end up transitioning to legal status. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that some 8 million of them

would do just that.

Beyond the changes in numbers, the immigration bill would shift the emphasis of U.S. immigration policy away from family ties and put more weight on employment prospects, education and relative youth. It also would raise ceilings on how many immigrants could come from any one country. And there would be impacts as yet unforeseen as the policies unspool into an uncertain future and economic conditions in other countries affect how many foreigners dream of calling the U.S. home.

"There's not going to be a dramatic change that we will see overnight, but longer-term changes," said Audrey Singer, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. "We've got this idea of the policy and then when we put it into practice inevitably there are unintended consequences or unintended trends that develop."

Yahoo shuts down Internet relic AltaVista

NEW YORK (AP)—Once up on a time, there was a popular search engine called AltaVista. It lives no more. On Monday, its owner Yahoo Inc. sent AltaVista.com to the Internet graveyard to rest alongside order-almost-anything venture Kozmo.com and the butler from Ask Jeeves. Palo Alto, Calif.-based AltaVista was introduced in 1995, three years before Google Inc. was founded. Eclipsed by Google in the early 2000s, AltaVista's star had already faded by the time Yahoo acquired it as part of its \$1.7 billion purchase of Overture Services Inc. in July 2003. Overture had bought AltaVista earlier that year from Massachusetts-based CMGI Inc. Yahoo announced AltaVista's fate on its Tumblr page late last month. According to data from online research firm comScore, most people in the U.S. use Google for their search needs, followed by Microsoft's Bing. Yahoo is in third place.

US consumer borrowing up as credit card use rises

WASHINGTON (AP)—Americans increased their borrowing in May at the fastest pace in a year. Borrowing in the category that includes credit cards reached its high-

est point since the fall of 2010. Increased borrowing typically means that consumers are feeling more confident. Americans stepped up their borrowing by \$19.6 billion in May compared with April, the Federal Reserve said Monday in its monthly report on consumer credit. That was the biggest jump since a \$19.9 billion rise in May 2012. Total borrowing reached a record \$2.84 trillion. The category that includes credit card use rose \$6.6 billion, also the largest gain in a year. Credit card debt reached \$847.1 billion, the most since September 2010.

Barnes & Noble CEO William Lynch resigns

NEW YORK (AP)—Barnes & Noble Inc. said Monday that William Lynch has stepped down as CEO, effective immediately, just weeks after the book retailer announced weak sales, big losses and the declining popularity of its Nook e-readers. Lynch's resignation comes after just three years in the role. No successor was named, but the New York company said that it is reviewing its strategic plan and will provide an update "when appropriate." Chief Financial Officer Michael Huseby will become president of the company and CEO of its Nook Media unit. Controller Allen Lindstrom will succeed Huseby as CFO.



LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
15,224.69	1,640.46	3,484.83
88.85	8.57	5.45
+0.59%	+0.53%	+0.16%

EXCHANGE RATES

Australian Dollar	1.0955	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7566
British Pound	0.6692	Indian Rupee	60.1655
Canadian Dollar	1.0556	Indonesian Rupiah	9955
Chinese Yuan	6.1314	Japanese Yen	101.135
Euro	0.7772	Malaysian Ringgit	3.194
		New Zealand Dollar	1.2809
		Philippine Peso	43.615
		Singapore Dollar	1.2778
		South Korean Won	1143.35
		Swiss Franc	0.9648
		Taiwan Dollar	30.106
		Thailand Baht	31.38

Nation

Crash investigators turn to cockpit decisions

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Investigators trying to understand why Asiana Airlines Flight 214 crash-landed focused Monday on the actions of an experienced pilot learning his way around a new aircraft, fellow pilots who were supposed to be monitoring him and why no one noticed that the plane was coming in too slow.

Authorities also reviewed the initial rescue efforts after fire officials acknowledged that one of their trucks may have run over one of the two Chinese teenagers killed in the crash at San Francisco International Airport. The students were the accident's only fatalities.

National Transportation Safety Board Chairman Deborah Hersman said investigators watched airport surveillance video to determine whether an emergency vehicle hit one of the students. But they have not reached any firm conclusions. A coroner said he would need at least two weeks to rule in the matter.

The students had been in the rear of the aircraft, where many of the most seriously injured passengers were seated, Hersman said.

The NTSB also said part of the jet's tail section was found in San Francisco Bay, and debris from the seawall was carried several hundred feet down the runway, indicating the plane hit the seawall on its approach.

Investigators have said Flight 214 was flying "significantly below" its target speed during approach when the crew tried to abort the landing just before the plane smashed onto the runway. Authorities do not know yet whether the pilot's inexperience



In this Saturday, July 6, 2013 aerial photo, the wreckage of Asiana Flight 214 lies on the ground after it crashed at the San Francisco International Airport, in San Francisco.

with the Boeing 777 and landing it at San Francisco's airport played a role.

The airline acknowledged Monday in Seoul that the pilot at the controls had flown that type of plane for only a short time and had never before landed one at that airport.

Asiana spokeswoman Lee Hyomin said pilot Lee Gang-guk had logged nearly 10,000 hours operating other planes but had only 43 hours in the 777, a plane she said he was still getting used to.

It's not unusual for veteran

pilots to learn about new aircraft by flying with more experienced colleagues. Another pilot on the flight, Lee Jeong-min, had 12,390 hours of flying experience, including 3,220 hours on the 777, according to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport in South Korea.

Lee Jeong-min was the deputy pilot helping Lee Gang-guk get accustomed to the 777, according to Asiana Airlines.

It was unclear whether the other two pilots were in the cockpit, which in the Boeing

777 typically seats four. But that would be standard procedure at most airlines at the end of a long international flight.

NTSB lead investigator Bill English said pilot interviews were going slowly because of the need for translation. The interviews began only after agents from the Korean Aviation and Rail Accident Investigation Board arrived from South Korea.

New details of the investigation have also raised questions about whether the pilots may have been so reliant on auto-

mated cockpit systems that they failed to notice the plane's airspeed had dropped dangerously low, aviation safety experts and other airline pilots said.

Information gleaned from the Boeing 777's flight-data recorders revealed a jet that appeared to be descending normally until the last half-minute before impact.

The autopilot was switched off at about 1,600 feet as the plane began its final descent, according to an account of the last 82 seconds of flight provided by Hersman.

Coroner delays release of crash victims' autopsies

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A county coroner said Monday that he would not report for "at least two or three weeks" whether one of the two teenage girls who died in the Asiana Airlines crash was struck and killed by an emergency vehicle.

San Mateo County Coroner Robert Foucault said that while autopsies of the two Chinese girls have been completed, he wants to review written information from the public safety agencies that responded to the crash and audio dispatch files before determining their causes of deaths.

"This is a very high-profile case and has obviously generated a lot of attention," Foucault said at his office located a few miles south of San Francisco International Airport where the plane crashed Saturday. "I want to make absolutely sure my conclusions are correct."

Foucault earlier had said he hoped to have preliminary results on Monday that he would make public once they had been shared with the girls' families.

He said he made the decision to hold off independently and that neither city officials nor federal accident investigators had asked him for a postponement.

San Francisco fire officials acknowledged Monday that one of their trucks responding to the crash may have accidentally struck one of the two teenage girls who were the accident's only fatalities.

FIFTH YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In Loving Memory of

Daniel Duenas Babauta

We the family humbly invite all our relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the Fifth Year Death anniversary of our beloved unto eternal life.

Daily 6:00am mass will be offered at Kristo Rai Church beginning Thursday, July 11, 2013 through Friday, July 19, 2013.

Your presence and prayers will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase
The Family

Defense presents video in Manning WikiLeaks trial

FORT MEADE, Md. (AP)—Lawyers for an Army private who gave mountains of classified information to WikiLeaks opened their defense at his court-martial Monday with leaked video of a U.S. helicopter attack in Baghdad—footage in which airmen laugh and call targets "dead bastards."

The video is the basis of an espionage charge alleging Pfc. Bradley Manning had unauthorized possession of national de-

fense information.

Manning has admitted to leaking the 39-minute cockpit video showing a 2007 attack that killed 11 men, including a Reuters news photographer and his driver. Manning has said he was troubled by the airmen's behavior and by the U.S. military's refusal to release the video.

The Pentagon concluded that the troops reasonably mistook the journalists for enemy com-

batants. WikiLeaks posted it in April 2010 under the title "Collateral Murder."

The 25-year-old soldier from Crescent, Okla., admitted he leaked the video and hundreds of thousands of classified Iraq and Afghanistan war logs and diplomatic cables while working as an intelligence analyst in Baghdad in 2009 and 2010.

Manning says he leaked the material because he was trou-

bled by what it revealed about U.S. foreign policy.

On Monday morning, the defense called its first witness, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Joshua Ehresman, to establish the wide authorized access Manning and other intelligence analysts had. Ehresman testified that Manning and other intelligence analysts scoured a classified computer network for bits of information needed by field commanders.

Perry reshaped Texas, but foundered nationally

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Gov. Rick Perry was a champion of fiercely conservative social activism long before the tea party was born. He oversaw the "Texas Miracle" job-creation boom and became the state's most powerful governor since Reconstruction.

But nationally, Perry is better known for his 'oops' presidential debate brain freeze or for not opposing forcefully enough the notion that Texas could secede from the union. For many outside the Lone Star State, he's a political

punchline on par with Dan Quayle—if he's known at all.

Now, the longest-serving governor in Texas history is quitting his day job. Perry announced Monday that he won't seek a fourth full term in office next year, but notably didn't say whether another run for the White House in 2016 could be next.

"The time has come to pass on the mantle of leadership. Today I'm announcing I will not seek re-election as governor of Texas," Perry said Monday. "I

will spend the next 18 months working to create more jobs, opportunity and innovation. I will actively lead this great state. And I'll also pray and reflect and work to determine my own future."

But for that future to include another run for president, Perry will first need to concentrate on rebuilding his tattered image outside of Texas.

"He's starting behind the eight ball," said South Carolina-based Republican opera-

tive Hogan Gidley, an adviser to former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum and ex-Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee—both unsuccessful presidential hopefuls who have remained national conservative forces.

Perry had never lost an election during his 27-year political career when he strapped on his signature cowboy boots and strode into the race for the GOP presidential nomination in August 2011, becoming a near-instant front-runner.

Asia

Report assails Pakistani officials over bin Laden

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Al-Qaida founder Osama bin Laden was able to live in Pakistan undetected for nine years because of a breathtaking scale of negligence and incompetence at practically all levels of the Pakistani government, according to an official government report published by a TV channel on Monday.

The 336-page report was written by a commission tasked

with investigating the circumstances surrounding the covert U.S. raid that killed bin Laden in Pakistan in May 2011. The pan-Arab Al-Jazeera satellite channel published the report on its website after it was leaked to the station by unknown sources.

Pakistani officials did not respond to requests for comment on the report's authenticity.

The U.S. Navy SEALs raid that killed bin Laden in the

northwest town of Abbottabad outraged Pakistani officials because they were not told about it beforehand. U.S. officials have said they kept Pakistan in the dark because they were worried the al-Qaida founder would be tipped off.

The fact that the compound where bin Laden was hiding was located only about one kilometer (half a mile) from Pakistan's equivalent of West Point



In this May 2, 2011 file photo, a Pakistani soldier stands near a compound where al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden lived in Abbottabad, Pakistan. AP

Reports say 6 Tibetans hurt in shooting incident

BEIJING (AP)—At least six Tibetans were injured when Chinese paramilitary police fired on a crowd that was attempting to commemorate the Dalai Lama's birthday in a volatile part of western China, sources in the exile Tibetan community said Monday.

The incident Saturday in the Sichuan province's Daofu county marks an escalation of tensions in an area already on edge over a wave of self-immolations by Tibetans and a massive security presence. Daofu, known in Tibetan as Tawu, and the surrounding prefecture of Ganzi were home to several of the reported 119

Tibetans who have set themselves on fire in protest over Chinese restrictions on Buddhism and denigration of the Dalai Lama, who lives in exile in India.

Tawu Lobsang Jinpa, a former prisoner living in exile in India, said he was told of the shootings by a Tibetan Buddhist monk who was caring for one of those injured in the Saturday clash. The London-based International Campaign for Tibet said it confirmed the shooting, in which one monk suffered a serious head wound.

They both said police fired guns and tear gas at about 500 Tibetans attempting to hold

commemorations by scaling a hillside to burn incense and hang prayer flags calling for good health for the 78-year-old Dalai Lama, Tibet's traditional Buddhist leader who has been denounced as a political opportunist since escaping amid an abortive uprising against Chinese rule in 1959.

Daofu lies in the former Tibetan territory of Kham that was separated from Tibet proper following China's occupation of the Himalayan region in 1950. China says Tibet has been part of its territory for centuries, but many Tibetans say they were essentially independent for most of that time.

led many in the U.S. to suspect Pakistani officials of aiding the al-Qaida chief, although Washington never found evidence to back that up.

The report said it also found no evidence that current or former Pakistani officials helped bin Laden hide, although it couldn't rule it out completely. It said very little is known about the network of support that bin Laden enjoyed in Pakistan, other than the group of family and backers that lived

with him in Abbottabad.

The report lambasted all levels of government, including the powerful army and intelligence services, for failing to detect the terror leader as he lived in six different places in Pakistan over nine years.

"To summarize, negligence and incompetence to a greater or lesser degree at almost all levels of government are clear," said the report, which was based on testimony from more than 200 witnesses, official docu-

ments and site visits.

The criticism of the army and intelligence services was noteworthy in a country where officials often steer clear of taking these powerful organizations to task. But it's unclear if the report will cause any real repercussions. The commission recommended the government make the report public for fear it would be ignored or suppressed, but that never happened, even though it was completed months ago.

In Celebration of Her New Life

† Roxanne Marie Reyes Maratita-Weaver

better known as "Rox/Roxie"

Born on August 7, 1968 and was called to her eternal rest on Saturday, July 06, 2013

In her new life, Roxanne will be reunited with her:

Father: †David Quichocho Maratita

Father-in-law: †Josephus C. Weaver

Niece: †Miracle Divine L. Maratita

Roxanne's memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Husband & Best Friend: Gerald "Gene" Eugene Weaver

Children and Grandchild: Justis Ryan, Pedro David, Tori Lourdes, Garrett Joseph, Jourdon Virginia (Leighton)

Mother: Victoria Reyes Maratita

Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws:

Beverly M. & Francisco M. Camacho and Children

David R. & Claire L. Maratita and Children

Kevin R. & Joy M. Maratita and Children

Barrie R. & Jennifer F. Maratita and Children

Winona B. Maratita

Sylvia A. & Orlando Cepeda and Children

Helen M. Atalig and Children

Matthew B. Blanco

Parents-in-law: Rita C. & David M. Sablan

Brothers & Sisters-in-law:

David & Darling Castro and Children

Shirley Weaver and Children

Joseph Weaver and Children

Deanna M. Sablan

Step-Mother: Lucia Blanco-Maratita

She will also be missed by numerous Aunts, Uncles, Nieces, Nephews, Cousins, Godchildren and Friends.

Daily Mass of Intention is offered at 6:00AM and nightly Rosary is being said at 7:00PM at Kristo Rai Church, Garapan.

Funeral Services will be held on **Saturday, July 13, 2013.**

Our beloved Roxanne's remains will be escorted from CHC to Mount Carmel Cathedral, Chalan Kanoa at 7:30AM. Responso Service and Holy Rosary will immediately follow upon arrival.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00AM followed by Interment Service at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where she will be at a peaceful rest.

Your thoughts and prayers are sincerely appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Thank You

From Gene, Children, and family

World

Clashes by Egypt army, protesters kill at least 54

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt was rocked Monday by the deadliest day since its Islamist president was toppled by the military, with more than 50 of his supporters killed by security forces as the country's top Muslim cleric raised the specter of civil war.

The military found itself on the defensive after the bloodshed, but the interim president drove ahead with the army's political plan. He issued a swift timetable for the process of amending the Islamist-backed constitution and set parliamentary and presidential elections for early 2014.

The killings further entrenched the battle lines between supporters and opponents of ousted President Mohammed Morsi, who was removed by the military July 3 after a year in office following mass demonstrations by millions of Egyptians.

Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood called for an uprising, accusing troops of gunning down protesters, while the military blamed armed Islamists for provoking its forces.

The shootings began during a protest by about 1,000 Islamists outside the Republican Guard headquarters where Morsi, Egypt's first freely elected leader, was detained last week. Demonstrators and members of



An Egyptian man cries outside a morgue after carrying the corpse of his brother killed near the Republican Guard building in Cairo, Egypt, Monday, July 8, 2013.

Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood said troops descended on them and opened fire unprovoked as they finished dawn prayers.

"I was in the last row praying. They were firing from the left and right," said Nashat Mohammed, who had come from southern Egypt to join the sit-in and was wounded in the knee. "We said, 'Stop, we're your brothers.' They shot at us from every direction."

After a battle lasting about three hours, at least 51 protesters were killed and 435 wounded, most from live ammunition and birdshot, emergency services chief Mohammed Sultan told to the state news agency.

At a nationally televised news conference, Army Col. Ahmed Mohammed Ali said police and troops came under "heavy gunfire" at around 4 a.m. and attackers on rooftops opened fire with guns and Molotov cocktails. A soldier and two policemen were killed, and 42 in the security forces were wounded, eight critically, he said.

While he said troops had a right to defend the facility, Ali did not directly explain how the protester deaths occurred. He expressed condolences but offered no apologies for the deaths.

A collection of video of the clashes provided by the mili-

tary to Egyptian TV showed protesters on rooftops lobbing projectiles at troops below, including firebombs and toilet seats. It also showed some armed protesters firing at close range at the troops, but it did not show what the military did. It was also not clear at what time in the fighting the videos were shot. It included aerial views of the clashes.

Several witnesses from outside the protest said the gunfire started when troops appeared to move on the camp.

University student Mirna el-Helbawi told The Associated Press that she watched from her 14th floor apartment

overlooking the scene, after she heard protesters banging on metal barricades, a common battle cry. El-Helbawi, 21, said she saw troops and police approaching the protesters, who were lined up on the street behind a make-shift wall. The troops fired tear gas, the protesters responded with rocks, she said.

Soon after, she heard the first gunshots and saw the troops initially retreat backward—which she said led her to believe the shots came from the protester side. She saw Morsi supporters firing from rooftops, while the troops were also shooting.

The Freedom and Justice

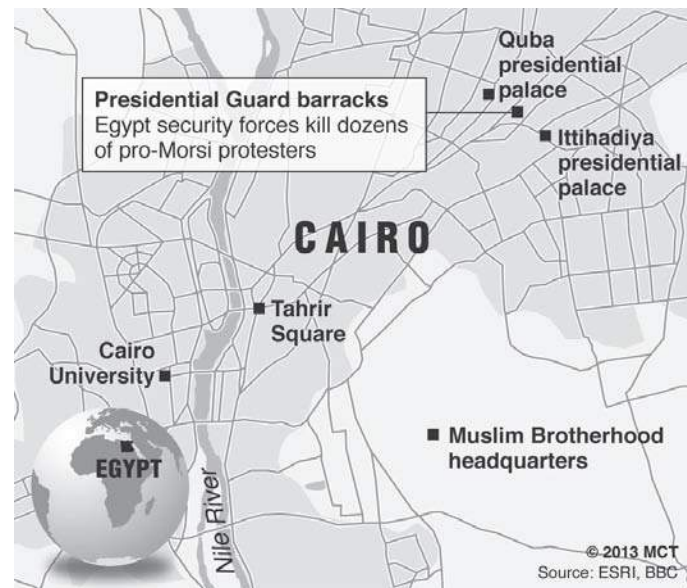
party, the Muslim Brotherhood's political arm, called on Egyptians to rise up against the army, which it accused of turning Egypt into "a new Syria."

"This could be a moment of extremism for both sides" of the equation, Mohammed Mahsoub, a member of the Islamist Wasat Party told Al-Jazeera TV.

The sole Islamist faction that backed Morsi's removal, the ultraconservative Al-Nour Party, suspended its participation in talks on forming a new leadership for the country. The group is now torn by pressure from many in its base, furious over what they saw as a "massacre" against Islamists.

Reeling from scenes of bloodied protesters in hospitals and clinics, many with gaping wounds, some of Egypt's politicians tried to push new plans for some sort of reconciliation in the deeply polarized nation.

Sheik Ahmed el-Tayeb, the grand imam of Al-Azhar, the most prominent Sunni Muslim institution, demanded that a reconciliation panel with full powers immediately start work and that those detained in recent days be released. Five prominent Brotherhood figures have been jailed since Morsi's fall, and Morsi himself is held in detention in an unknown location.



Toll in Quebec oil train derailment sure to rise

LAC-MEGANTIC, Quebec (AP)—Traumatized survivors of an oil train derailment that wiped out the heart of a small town braced for more bad news as inspectors were finally cleared to enter the charred site's epicenter and look for remains late Monday, more than two days after the disaster that killed at least 13 people.

A total of 50 were missing and the death toll was sure to rise.

Quebec provincial police Sgt. Benoit Richard said eight more bodies had been found in the wreckage after firefighters doused the flames and cooled down some of the oil tankers that were in danger of exploding. Five bodies were found over the weekend, and police

would not say where the newly discovered ones were, for fear of upsetting families.

All but one of the train's 73 tanker cars were carrying oil when they came loose early Saturday, sped downhill nearly seven miles (11 kilometers) into the town of Lac-Mégantic, near the Maine border, and derailed. At least five of the

cars exploded.

Maude Verrault, a waitress at downtown's Musi-Cafe, was outside smoking when she spotted the blazing train barreling toward her.

"I've never seen a train moving so fast in my life, and I saw flames ... Then someone screamed 'the train is going to derail!' and that's when I ran," Verrault said. She said she felt the heat scorch her back as she ran from the explosion, but was too terrified to look back.

The rail tankers involved in the derailment are known as DOT-111 and have a history of puncturing during accidents, the lead Transportation Safety Board investigator told The Associated Press in a telephone interview late Monday.

TSB investigator Donald Ross said Canada's TSB has gone on record saying that it would like to see improvements on these tankers, though he acknowledged it's too early to say whether a different or modified tanker would have avoided this weekend's tragedy.

The DOT-111 is a staple of the American freight rail fleet. But its flaws have been noted as far back as a 1991 safety study. Among other things, its steel shell is too thin to resist puncture in accidents, which almost guarantees the car will tear open in an accident, potentially spill-

ing cargo that could catch fire, explode or contaminate the environment.

"It's too early to tell. There's a lot of factors involved," Ross said. "There's a lot of energy here. The train came down on a fairly significant grade for 6.8 miles before it came into the town and did all the destruction it did." He said the train was moving at 63 mph (101 kph) when it derailed.

The Saturday blasts destroyed about 30 buildings, including a public library and Musi-Cafe, a popular bar that was filled with revelers, and forced about a third of the town's 6000 residents from their homes. Much of the area where the bar once stood was burned to the ground. Burned-out car frames dotted the landscape.

The derailment raised questions about the safety of Canada's growing practice of transporting oil by train, and was sure to bolster arguments that a proposed oil pipeline running from Canada across the U.S.—one that Canadian officials badly want—would be safer.

Raymond Lafontaine, whose son and two daughters-in-law were among the missing, said he was angry with what appeared to be lack of safety regulations.

"We always wait until there's a big accident to change things,"

he said. "Well, today we've had a big accident, it's one of the biggest ever in Canada."

The fires sparked by the exploding tanks burned for two days, impeding investigators from reaching some of the "hot spots," including the area near the destroyed Musi-Cafe.

"It's a zone that we've started to work on and we'll work on it more in the hours to come," Richard said.

The area remained part of a criminal investigation and investigators were exploring all options, including the possibility that someone intentionally tampered with the train, Richard said.

Canadian Transport Minister Denis Lebel said the train was inspected the day before the accident in Montreal and no deficiencies were found. Lebel defended his government against criticisms it had cut back on rail safety measures. He said the rail remains a safe way to transport goods the vast majority of the time.

Earlier Monday, Queen Elizabeth II expressed deep sadness over the disaster, saying in a message through the federal government that the loss of life "has shocked us all." Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper toured the town Sunday and compared it to a war zone.



Searchers dig through the rubble for victims in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec, Monday, July 8, 2013, after a train derailed, igniting tanker cars carrying crude oil early Saturday.

Focus

SCOTT MAYEROWITZ
AP AIRLINES WRITER

Passengers in plane crashes today, such as the one in San Francisco involving Asiana Airlines Flight 214, are more likely to survive than in past disasters.

Saturday's crash was the latest where a big commercial airliner was destroyed but most passengers escaped with their lives. There were plenty of cuts, bruises and broken bones—and some more severe injuries—but only 2 of the 307 passengers and crew onboard died.

Planes now are structurally sounder. In the cabin, stronger seats are less likely to move and crush passengers. Seat cushions and carpeting are fire retardant and doors are easier to open. Those improvements allow people to exit the plane more quickly.

The nature of crashes has also changed. Improvements in cockpit technology mean that planes rarely crash into mountains or each other—accidents that are much more deadly.

"Crashes are definitely more survivable today than they were a few decades ago," said Kevin Hiatt, president and CEO of the Flight Safety Foundation, an industry-backed nonprofit group aimed at improving air safety. "We've learned from the past incidents about what can be improved."

Investigators are still trying to determine the cause of the Asiana crash. But whatever the reason, it reflects the trend of fewer people dying in plane accidents.

The odds weren't always in passengers' favor. From 1962 to 1981, 54 percent of people in plane crashes were killed. From 1982 to 2009, that figure improved to 39 percent, according to an Associated Press analysis of National Transportation Safety Board data. Those figures only include crashes with at least one fatality. There have been other serious crashes where everybody survived.

The most famous was a US Airways flight in January 2009 that lost engine power after striking a flock of geese after taking off from New York's LaGuardia Airport. Capt. Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger ditched the Airbus A320 in the Hudson River and all 155 people onboard survived. The crash was dubbed the "Miracle on the Hudson."

A British Airways flight in January 2008 crashed short of the runway at London's Heathrow Airport. All 152 passengers and crew onboard the Boeing 777—the same jet type as Saturday's Asiana flight—survived.

This April, a Boeing 737 flown by Indonesian airline Lion Air crashed into water short of a runway in Bali. The plane's fuselage split into two sections but all 108 people on board survived.

"What's really important is for people to understand that airplane crashes, the majority of them are survivable," Deborah Hersman, chairwoman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said Sunday on the CBS News show, "Face the Nation."

Several advances in aviation technology have made these feats of survival possible. They include:

- Stronger seats. Today's airplane seats—and the bolts holding them into the floor—are designed to withstand forces up to 16 times that of gravity. That prevents rows of seats from pancaking together during a crash, crushing passengers.

- Fire retardant materials. Carpeting and seat cushions are now made of materials that burn slower, spread flames slower and don't give off noxious and dangerous gases.

- Improved exits. Doors on planes are much simpler to open and easily swing out of the way, allowing passengers to quickly exit. And planes now come with rows of lights on the floor that change



In this photo provided by the National Transportation Security Board, investigators conduct a first site assessment overnight of the Asiana Airlines flight 214 that crashed at the San Francisco International Airport in San Francisco, Saturday, July 6, 2013.

Safety advances boost plane crash survival odds

from white to red when an exit is reached.

- Better training. Flight attendants at many airlines now train in full-size models of planes that fill with smoke during crash simulations.

- Stronger planes. Aircraft engineers have looked at structural weaknesses from past crashes and reinforced those sections of the plane.

Regulators started mandating such cabin improvements after two deadly aircraft fires in the 1980s.

First, an Air Canada flight made an emergency landing at Cincinnati's airport in 1983 after a fire broke out in the bathroom. The plane landed safely but half of the 46 passengers and crew died because they couldn't quickly escape the smoke and fire.

"Crashes are definitely more survivable today than they were a few decades ago. We've learned from the past incidents about what can be improved."

Two years later, a British Airtours aborted a takeoff in Manchester, England after an engine fire. Passengers evacuated but not fast enough. Of the 137 people onboard, 54 died after inhaling toxic smoke.

"Those two accidents together were the two-by-four to the head" that led the U.S. and British governments to impose new fire-safety standards, said Bill Waldo, a professor of safety science at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University's Prescott, Ariz. campus.

Saturday's Asiana crash may have benefited from those changes. The Boeing 777 involved was manufactured in 2005 and contained all of the advances in safety.

"It may have been worse if that fuselage had been designed with practices that were common 20 or 30 years prior," said Todd Curtis, a former safety engineer with Boeing and now a director of the Airsafe.com Foundation.

The emergency response also played a part in limiting the number of fatalities. Airport fire departments frequently hold drills where crews simulate a crash and practice coordinating with area hospitals on how to care for the injured.

"Had this happened in a developing world country with no (advanced) trauma center, there might have been more fatalities," Curtis said.

New technology helps today's pilots avoid the deadliest types of crashes. Accidents with planes hitting mountains or each other in midair, typically at speeds up to 500 mph, are rare in North America and Europe. Crashes during landing happen while planes are flying at lower speeds of 130 to 150 mph.

"You've changed the nature of accidents," said

Capt. Alan W. Price, the former chief pilot for the Atlanta base of Delta Air Lines and founder of consulting firm Falcon Leadership.

Today's planes come with ground proximity warning systems, which alert pilots if they are too low. An alarm sounds and a computer shouts "terrain, pull up."

That technology didn't exist in 1974, when a Trans World Airlines plane heading for Washington Dulles International Airport crashed into 1,754-foot tall Mount Weather in Virginia. All 92 people on board died.

Modern cockpit radar systems alert pilots to other planes nearby. Such a system would have probably prevented the 1960 midair collision of a TWA jet with a United plane over New York, killing all 128 people on the two planes and 6 people on the ground.

Better radar systems on the ground have also helped. They've prevented planes from going down the wrong taxiway or onto active runways. The deadliest aviation disaster in history remains the collision of Pan Am and KLM jets on the runway of Tenerife in Spain's Canary Islands in 1977. In foggy conditions, amid confusion over air traffic controller instructions, the KLM plane took off while the Pan Am jet was taxiing down the same runway. The crash killed 583 people on both planes; 61 survived. Had such radar existed at the time, the KLM pilots would have probably seen the Pan Am jet in its way.

Today, thanks to these advances there are about two deaths worldwide for every 100 million passengers on commercial flights, according to an Associated Press analysis of government accident data.

Just a decade ago, passengers were 10 times as likely to die when flying on an American plane. The risk of death was even greater during the start of the jet age, with 1,696 people dying—133 out of every 100 million passengers—from 1962 to 1971. The figures exclude acts of terrorism.

Those in the airline industry often say that a person is more likely to die driving to the airport than on a flight. There are more than 30,000 motor-vehicle deaths each year, a mortality rate eight times greater than that in planes.

Campus Life

Second group graduates from Palau care-giving program



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Newly graduated caregivers from the Care-Giving Program at Palau Community College have their picture taken with Palau Community College president Dr. Patrick U. Tellei; dean of Continuing Education Willy Wally; Palau's Minister of Health Gregorio Ngirmang, and the program's instructors, Dr. Sylvia Osarch and Tino Faatuulala.

A second group of caregivers was certified on July 4, 2013, after completing the Care-Giving Program at Palau Community College.

A total of 10 caregivers received their certificates of completion: Alvina Marciel, Evalind Adelbai, Federica Balasbas Bukringang, Felomina E. Medina, Julita Tellei, Fraulein Rengil, Malintha Wasisang, Mercy F. Ricky, Nora T. Nanca, and Rodora Atibagos.

Present to witness the award-

ing ceremony were Palau Community College president Dr. Patrick U. Tellei; dean of Continuing Education Willy Wally; and Palau's Minister of Health Gregorio Ngirmang. The program's instructors, Dr. Sylvia Osarch and Tino Faatuulala, were also present.

In a collaborative effort with the Ministry of Health, Palau Community College is providing a basic care-giving training program. A basis for the program was provided by

Dr. Ritabelle Fernandes of the Geriatric Education Center at John A. Burnes School of Medicine in Hawaii.

Geriatrics is a field of medicine that deals with the healthcare needs of elderly individuals.

The island of Palau has about 400 bedridden patients, most of them elderly. In an effort to assist the shortage in medical staff, the Care-Giving Program provides basic training for individuals interested in learning

how to properly care for a bedridden patient, particularly an elderly one.

The training teaches prospective caregivers about the proper personal hygiene care for patients, the proper preparation of meals, and the proper care required for certain illnesses (e.g., diabetes or anemia). In addition, prospective caregivers learn how to personally deal with the stresses that may come with such an occupation.

The Care-Giving Program

began on June 10, 2013. Another group will begin training on July 15, 2013. Instructors who have volunteered to teach the program include certified nurses, physical therapists, and psychiatrists. Each training session spans over a two-week period.

A total of 400 individuals are

currently signed up for the program. Of the 400 individuals, 25 have been certified, leaving 375 prospective caregivers to train. The Care-Giving Program is free and open to any persons interested in learning how to properly care for bedridden patients. (PCC)

Kennedy's reading list offers young people a guide to liberty, democracy

SAN FRANCISCO—Young people interested in learning more about the American heritage of liberty and democracy need go no further than the books, speeches and films most admired by one of the nation's preeminent jurists.

"Understanding Freedom's Heritage: How to Keep and Defend Liberty" is a young people's list of summer reading and viewing suggested by United States Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy. The list was shared by Justice Kennedy earlier this year at the opening of the Justice Anthony M. Kennedy Library and Learning Center, which is housed in the Robert T. Matsui U.S. Courthouse in Sacramento.

Working with organizers of the foundation formed to support the library and learning center, the Ninth Circuit Library has posted the list along with links to many of the titles available in the public domain on its Internet website.

"We are very pleased to have Justice Kennedy's permission to share these fascinating and thought-provoking selections with all," said Ninth Circuit Li-

brarian Eric Wade. "With summer in full swing, we hope folks of all ages will tuck these readings into their beach bags and backpacks, or download them to their electronic devices."

In his many speeches and appearances, Justice Kennedy frequently expounds on the nature of freedom, democracy and the rule of law, often citing influential literature. His list is eclectic, noted District Judge Kimberly J. Mueller of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California.

"I love the range – from Pericles' Funeral Oration to Susan B. Anthony's speech on women suffrage, from Justice Murphy's dissent in *Korematsu* to the lyrics of 'American Pie' to Reese Witherspoon's commencement address in 'Legally Blonde,'" Judge Mueller said.

"The Justice's list is a tremendous contribution to our civic dialogue," observed Mac Goldsberry, president of the library and learning center foundation, adding that the variety of titles "makes for a fun and challenging read, bringing alive key principles that are integral to our nation's DNA." (PR)



LIBDAY PARADE

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JROTC cadets from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota form a mass formation to march for the parade on July 4 to celebrate Liberation Day.

Life & Style

Ice bar helps sweltering New Yorkers beat the heat

NEW YORK (AP)—In the sweltering summer heat, New Yorkers are ready for the big chill—in midtown Manhattan.

The city's first ice bar is now open at the New York Hilton Midtown on Sixth Avenue. The \$20 admission includes Eskimo-style gloves and a parka for the privilege of drinking cocktails in the freezing Minus5 Ice Bar.

The entire bar is made of ice. "The walls, everything," manager Chris Eldridge said. "The chairs you're sitting on, the glass you're drinking out of, even the light above your head is made of ice."

Promoters say it's all carved out of "100 percent Canadian ice."

The truth is, it's special, extra-clear "carvers" ice—some from Canada, the rest from Philadelphia, Las Vegas and Minneapolis.

About 350 blocks of it, each weighing up to 100 pounds, was used to create the cool surroundings that are meant to feel good on a Manhattan afternoon when temperatures soared into the 90s. Guests are accompanied to the meat locker-type bar door by "party starters"—hostesses clad in bustiers who don't venture into the cold.

The temperature inside? A soothing 23 degrees Fahrenheit.

That translates to minus-5 degrees on the Celsius scale—hence, the name.

Any heat-emitting devices that could melt the Arctic freeze—like cellphones—must be deposited in temperature-proof lockers at the door.

There are already two Minus5 bars in Las Vegas.

"An Experience that will chill you to your bones!" says the website of the company whose concept was created in New Zealand by Craig Ling, then tested as a pop-up igloo at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. Ling is now a partner in the New York venture.

An ice carver will change the

bar and sculptures every few months, with creations reflecting the season, location, wildlife, or even corporate logos and products for private functions.

The only concessions to warm comfort are some couches covered in faux deerskin.

Drinks reflect the icy clarity: mostly vodka-based cocktails in custom-designed glasses made from artesian water.

Bartender Paul Stavros was decked out for his eight-hour shift. He wore thermal underwear and snow boots, "just like winter in New York," the 27-year-old Stavros said.

A photographer roams the bar, producing images that guests can retrieve later to show family and friends.

The bar has a double personality. From 2 p.m., when it opens daily, to 7 p.m., children and families are welcome. After that, the establishment caters to a New York nightclub crowd.

In the heat of summer, it's the coolest experience in New York City—literally.

And it's a multimillion dollar endeavor. It cost over \$5 million to build the Manhattan bar—"bricks, mortar, ice and all," said Noel Bowman, Minus5's director of operations.

"The timing couldn't have been better for us to open here, with temperatures in the 90s," Bowman said.

He expects the novelty to draw winter guests too, as do the Las Vegas bars.

All of them are built with a cost-saving factor.

For the drinks, "we don't have to use ice," deadpanned Eldridge.

Just don't put your glass on any surface, "or it'll slide off!"

Customer Kevin Parker, 36, a real estate broker, paid a little extra to wear a white faux-fur coat as he clutched the bar's "Big Apple" cocktail that includes Midori and lemon liqueur.

"It's like New York: sweet and tart."

While the Washington Monument is closed for earthquake damage repairs over the next year, 488 lamps will restore the marble tower's glow each night on the National Mall.

The National Park Service lit up the monument for the first time on Monday evening—and will continue to do so each night at dusk. A crowd gathered on the Mall and at the Lincoln Memorial as the park service turned on the lights of a decorative design in sections, starting at the bottom. It took a few minutes for the lights to reach their full glow.

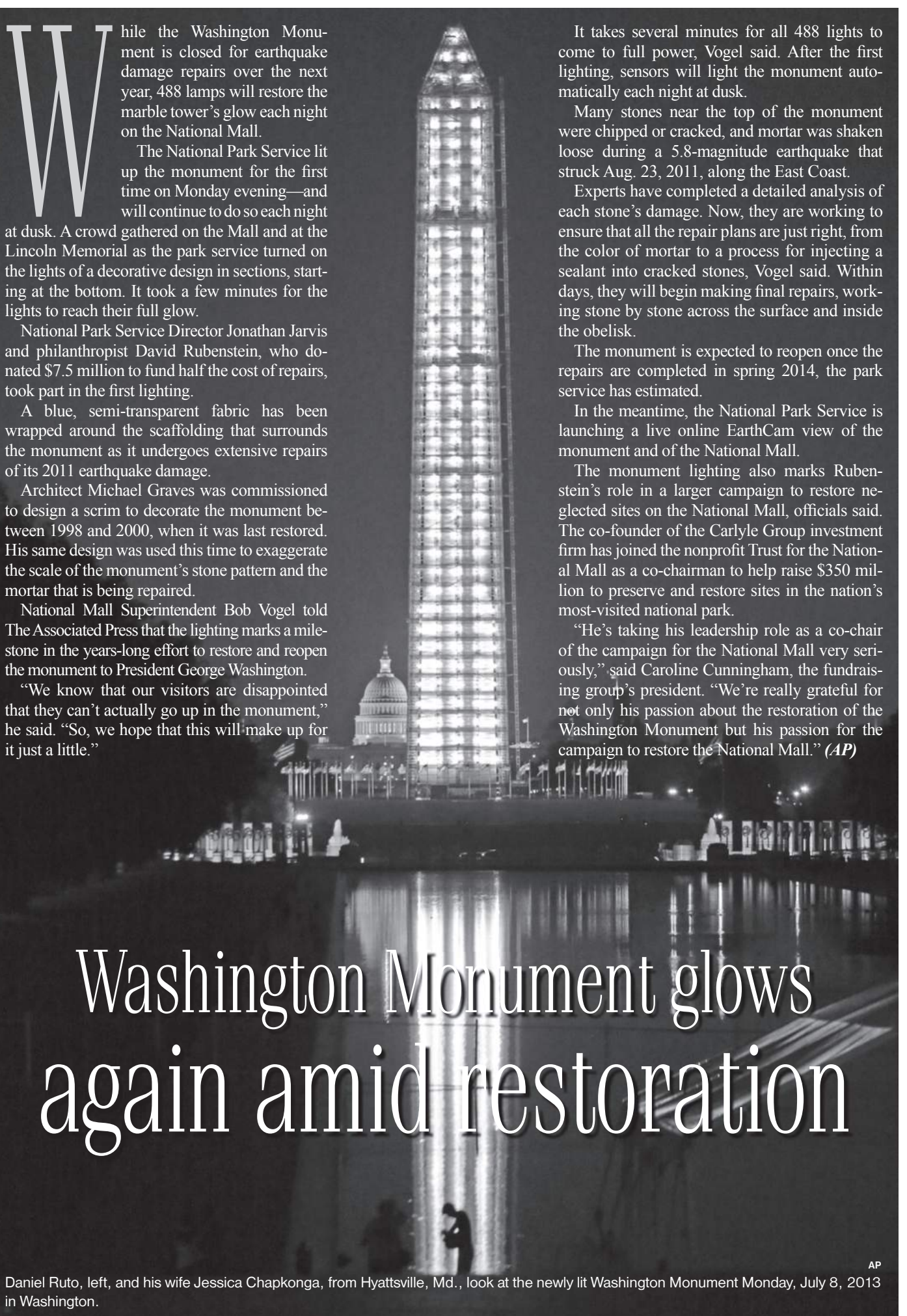
National Park Service Director Jonathan Jarvis and philanthropist David Rubenstein, who donated \$7.5 million to fund half the cost of repairs, took part in the first lighting.

A blue, semi-transparent fabric has been wrapped around the scaffolding that surrounds the monument as it undergoes extensive repairs of its 2011 earthquake damage.

Architect Michael Graves was commissioned to design a scrim to decorate the monument between 1998 and 2000, when it was last restored. His same design was used this time to exaggerate the scale of the monument's stone pattern and the mortar that is being repaired.

National Mall Superintendent Bob Vogel told The Associated Press that the lighting marks a milestone in the years-long effort to restore and reopen the monument to President George Washington.

"We know that our visitors are disappointed that they can't actually go up in the monument," he said. "So, we hope that this will make up for it just a little."



Daniel Ruto, left, and his wife Jessica Chapkonga, from Hyattsville, Md., look at the newly lit Washington Monument Monday, July 8, 2013 in Washington.



Kevin Parker, left, Ana Simon, center, and Eduardo Hernandez, right, visit the Minus 5 ice bar, on Monday, July 8, 2013 in New York.

Doctor says he thought Jackson had drug problem

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A doctor who treated Michael Jackson during a 1993 concert tour that had to be canceled when the singer entered rehab testified Monday about the signs that led him to conclude the singer had a problem with prescription pain medications at the time.

In videotaped testimony, Dr. Stuart Finkelstein said he was later asked by concert promoter AEG Live to act as Jackson's personal physician during the ill-fated "This Is It" tour in 2009 but wanted to know if Jackson was "clean."

AEG executive Paul Gon-

gaware said he didn't believe Jackson had any prescription drug issues, Finkelstein testified.

Finkelstein's testimony was recorded during a February deposition that was played for jurors hearing a negligence lawsuit by Jackson's mother against AEG Live LLC. Katherine Jackson claims AEG failed to properly investigate another doctor who later gave her son an overdose of the anesthetic propofol and that the company ignored warning signs about her son's health.

Finkelstein said he first suspected Jackson had a dependence on pain medications in

1993 while working on the "Dangerous" tour. He recounted spending 24 hours in the singer's hotel suite and administering morphine intravenously to deal with Jackson's pain.

He said he gave Jackson morphine during their first meeting because the singer's buttocks were scarred from previous unspecified treatments and he was concerned about giving an injection of the painkiller Demerol.

He said he also noticed that Jackson appeared to have a high tolerance for morphine and had on a patch that administered another opiate drug.

Finkelstein said he gave Jackson one other painkiller treatment before the "Dangerous" tour was halted after what he described as an intervention by Elizabeth Taylor and others in Mexico City.

Jurors also heard Monday from Kenny Ortega, a choreographer and director who worked with Jackson on preparations for the "Dangerous" tour and later shows, including "This Is It." Ortega was not present on the "Dangerous" tour at the same time as Finkelstein and testified that he never saw Jackson take any medications.

2 ‘Dancing With the Stars’ pros wrestle with tango

NEW YORK (AP)—In a sweltering midtown dance studio, two professionals from “Dancing With the Stars” were having the tables turned on them. On this recent afternoon, they were the dance students.

Karina Smirnoff and Maksim Chmerkovskiy were spinning each other around a mirrored room under the watchful eyes of a pair of Argentine tango pros—Victoria Galoto and Juan Paulo Horvath.

“No,” Galoto said at one point, stopping the practice session and grabbing her partner to demonstrate to the TV stars how the steps are to be properly done. “Like this.”

Smirnoff and Chmerkovskiy may be former Latin ballroom dancing champions and skilled enough each to be on 13 seasons of “Dancing With the Stars,” but here they are in a race to be Broadway ready with a dance called a “four legged animal with two beating hearts.”

“Nothing applies from what we know,” says Chmerkovskiy, sweat seeping through his tank top. “It’s like trying to be a great poet but in a different language. It’s very hard.”

The pair star in a revival of Luis Bravo’s “Forever Tango,” which traces the dance’s birth on the streets of 19th-century Buenos Aires to its more modern manifestations. They will take over for Galoto and Horvath when the touring show opens at the Walter Kerr Theatre on Sunday.

Adding to the spiciness is that Smirnoff and Chmerkovskiy are former lovers, having been engaged for nine months in 2009.



In this June 28, 2013 photo, dancers Karina Smirnoff, left, and Maksim Chmerkovskiy rehearse for the upcoming Broadway show “Forever Tango” in New York. AP

But both insist they’ve dealt with their personal issues and have moved on, although they use a more colloquial term than “personal issues.”

In person, they are comfortable and playful, teasing each other, natural in their touch and easy to laugh. After a photographer takes their picture, Smirnoff playfully pleads: “Can you make sure I look good in all the pictures? It doesn’t matter what he looks like.”

When they dance, there is something effortless about their movement. The slender, beautiful Ukrainian-born Smirnoff

seems to melt inside the torso of the hunky, muscular Chmerkovskiy, also born in the Ukraine. They think their intimate past can actually aid the tango, which should be sexy if done right.

“I think it helps. With every dance, you go to your experience, to your emotion, whatever you can relate to. I think with Maks, we both can go to a place where —” Smirnoff says.

“No one’s been before,” Chmerkovskiy interjects with a laugh.

“Exactly. We had our ups and we had the lowest of the lows and we can take that into the

dance and make it than much better,” his partner finishes.

“Aside from what transpired, I do have respect for her as a dancer. We went to a bad spot at one point or another but it’s been documented: I’ve never lost respect,” he adds. “I’ve always been looking forward to one day get this out of the way.”

Unlike the American ballroom tango with its big, showy, dramatized staccato movements that include a rose in the teeth, the Argentinian version is often improvised and much more seductive. Learning the salsa or waltz is a walk in the park by

comparison.

“It can be fun. It can be sad. It can be dramatic. It can be entertaining. It can be anything you want it to be, based on the music and choreography,” says Smirnoff. “So I think it’s one of the hardest dances.”

They’re learning from tango pros in Galoto and Horvath, though their English is not as strong as their leg work. Lessons have become more about two pros wordlessly showing another set of pros how to express themselves.

“Time has to pass for you to get it. There’s no way around it. For

us, we have to let go of structures and counts and steps and all that and just try to understand their language and start speaking it,” Chmerkovskiy says.

He laughs that he and Smirnoff have danced the tango plenty of times on “Dancing With the Stars”—she went all the way and won the mirrorball trophy with J. R. Martinez in Season 13—but now they’re really learning it.

“We’ve spent the last eight years pretty much on the show finding a way to dumb down—no disrespect, that’s the only way to do the show—what we do and package it in a very clear way. There’s no way to package this. We have done Argentine tango on the show, which goes to show what kind of tangos we did versus what the real one is,” he says.

Both are Broadway veterans, having co-starred in “Burn the Floor” in 2009. But this time they seem to be more fearful of the challenge and more apprehensive about getting the approval of their teachers.

“It’s important for us to know that we gave 100 percent. And to know that we’re able to deliver. Not just for ‘Forever Tango’ and Broadway but for these guys who’ve spent days with us trying to get us to the level that we need to be.”

“Exactly,” says Chmerkovskiy, gesturing to his tango tutors. “This is what I said to both of them: ‘Look, I just don’t want to be a bad tango dancer.’”

“Is there hope for us?” Chmerkovskiy asks his teachers.

“Yes. Of course,” Galoto answers sweetly. “There is always hope.”

Celine Dion helps launch Canadian artist on Strip

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Perched atop the performer hierarchy in Las Vegas, where she holds court in the Caesars Palace Colosseum, five-time Grammy winner Celine Dion could quite easily sit on her laurels.

But the 45-year-old mother of three is using her influence on new projects, working on a new album due out in October and co-producing the show of a fellow French Canadian songstress setting up shop across the street at Bally’s.

“I’m not looking to make friends in the business because I want to do my job, I want to have a good time and go home to my family,” Dion said in a recent interview with The Associated Press, sitting on stage next to a protege with whom she casually chatted in French. “But Veronica—it’s a different scenario. I’m not quite sure why. I want her to be my friend. I love her. I respect her very, very much.”

Veronic DiCaire—a winsome blonde from Ontario with boundless energy and just a wisp of an accent—previously opened for Dion during a 2008 tour stop in Montreal. In late June, she launched a two-month run of “Veronic Voices,” in which she impersonates 50 female artists ranging from Whitney Houston to Carrie Underwood and Lady Gaga.

In a city where it’s hard to stroll the sidewalk without running into a Michael Jackson or Elvis impressionist, DiCaire’s struggle will be rising above the stigmatized title of impersonator—something Dion said DiCaire can do because she “becomes” her characters.

“You’ve seen impersonators, you’ve seen men doing women, and women doing men,” Dion said. “Sometimes it’s funny, and sometimes it’s so exaggerated. We’ve seen it all. With Veronica it’s very, very different.”

DiCaire has a devoted French-speaking following after living in France, but her Vegas show is her breakout into the Anglophone world. Between summoning the big voice of Amy Winehouse, mimicking the snappy stage gestures of

her patroness Dion, and overdoing a Taylor Swift twang, she takes on a wide-eyed, country-girl-meets-big-city persona, at one point offering the self-deprecating quip “pardon my French” when she stumbled over her words.

If the show doesn’t take off, it won’t be for lack of a mentor. Dion wrote the textbook on creating a Vegas brand, filling up her 4,000-seat auditorium since she initially debuted there in 2003 and disproving doubters who wrote Sin City off as a retirement community for fading stars.

“Critics said, ‘Oh, my God, the Titanic’s going to sink again, she’s going to finish her career here,’” Dion recalled. “We took a chance. It worked really well for us.”

“I don’t have to be here. The reason why I’m here is because I’m really enjoying being here,” she added.

The Vegas appeal, Dion said, is skipping the exhausting tour schedule and going home every night to her producer husband and three boys: 12-year-old Rene Charles and twin 2-year-olds Eddy and Nelson.

The youngest ones are named after heroes—Eddy for French lyricist Eddy Marnay, whom Dion describes as her dad in show business, and Nelson for Nelson Mandela the ailing, 94-year-old former president of South Africa.

“We met with Mr. Mandela. It was a very amazing, privileged moment,” she said of the man credited with helping end apartheid. “We both thought it’s a hero name ... Nelson Mandela was representing something so positive and so grand.”

Apart from duties as mom and mentor, Dion plans to release her first English album in six years this fall. Challenged to keep things fresh after three decades of recording, she said, it includes some unexpected collaborations, including one with R&B artist Ne-Yo.

“The producers and the songwriters kind of proposed, again, amazing songs to me, and I got excited again,” she said. “The whole project was extraordinary.”



Celine Dion, left, and Veronic DiCaire pose for a portrait at the Jubilee Theatre on Friday, June 28, 2013 in Las Vegas. AP

Randy Travis in critical in Texas hospital

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Country music star Randy Travis was in critical condition Monday in a Texas hospital, a day after he was hospitalized with viral cardiomyopathy.

A news release from the singer's publicist says Travis was admitted to the hospital Sunday in Dallas and is in critical condition. Kirt Webster, Travis' publicist, said no other details about Travis' condition were available Monday.

Viral cardiomyopathy is a heart condition caused by a virus.

The illness is a continuation of a tough run for the 54-year-old "Three Wooden Crosses" singer after a handful of recent high-profile appearances, including a performance during the Country Music Association Festival's nightly concert series.

Travis pleaded guilty to driving while intoxicated in January following his arrest last year when he was found naked after crashing his Pontiac Trans Am.

Travis was sentenced to two years of probation, fined \$2000



In this June 7, 2013 file photo, Randy Travis performs on day 2 of the 2013 CMA Music festival at the LP Field in Nashville, Tenn.

and given a 180-day suspended jail sentence. He was required to spend at least 30 days at an alcohol treatment facility and complete 100 hours of community service.

The Mayo Clinic website describes cardiomyopathy (kahr-dee-oh-my-OP-uh-thee) as a disease that weakens and enlarges the heart muscle, making it harder for the heart

to pump blood and carry it to the rest of the body. It can lead to heart failure. Treatments range from medications and surgically implanted devices to heart transplants.

Lauryn Hill starts prison sentence for taxes

DANBURY, Conn. (AP)—Grammy-winning singer Lauryn Hill began serving a three-month prison sentence in Connecticut on Monday for failing

to pay about \$1 million in taxes over the past decade.

Hill reported to federal prison in Danbury, said Ed Ross, a spokesman for the federal Bureau of Prisons. Inmates at the minimum security prison live in open dormitory-style living quarters and are expected to work jobs such as maintenance, food service or landscaping.

Hill, who started singing with the Fugees as a teenager in the 1990s before releasing her multi-platinum 1998 album "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill," pleaded guilty last year in New



Hill

Jersey to failing to pay taxes on more than \$1.8 million earned from 2005 to 2007. Her sentencing also took into account unpaid state and federal taxes in 2008 and 2009 that brought the total earnings to about \$2.3 million.

Her attorney had sought probation, arguing that Hill's charitable works, her family circumstances and the fact she paid back the taxes she owed should merit consideration.

During her sentencing in May in Newark, N.J., Hill described how she failed to pay taxes dur-

ing a period when she'd dropped out of the music business to protect herself and her children, who now number six. She said the treatment she received while she was in the entertainment business led to her decision to leave it.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Sandra Moser acknowledged Hill's creative talent and work on behalf of impoverished children but called Hill's explanation for her actions "a parade of excuses centering around her feeling put upon" that don't exempt her from her responsibilities.

After she is released from prison, she will be under parole supervision for a year, the first three months of which will be spent under home confinement.

Kings of Leon join in to help Okla. tornado relief

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—When tornadoes devastated parts of Oklahoma earlier this year, members of Kings of Leon decided to help out the people of the state that's been a huge part of their lives over the years.

They just weren't sure how, and opening up the bank account didn't seem the right way to go.

"It just felt like something we could lend a hand to," Jared Followill said. "We talked about just donating some money. But you know we just all started talking and we realized we'd probably raise more money by doing a show and it would probably be more fun for us than just writing a check. We can go there and be with the people, be with our family. It was one of those things that we didn't realize that it could happen. The people that we work with just made it happen really quickly."

The Kings of Leon's Rock for Oklahoma: A Benefit Concert for Oklahoma Tornado Victims will happen July 23. It's the third big fundraiser in the wake of the storms that killed dozens and uprooted thousands, preceded by efforts that included fellow Oklahomans Blake Shelton, Toby Keith, Garth Brooks, Ronnie Dunn and Carrie Underwood.

The Followills invited Oklahoma City residents The Flaming Lips and Jackson Browne and Built to Spill to participate in the concert at Chesapeake Energy Arena. Grace Potter and Ben Kweller will make guest appearances, and there will be a silent auction to win a meet-and-greet with Victoria's Secret Angels Lily Aldridge and Erin Heatherton.

The concert comes as the Kings wrap up a European tour and prepare to release their sixth

album, "Mechanical Bull," later this year.

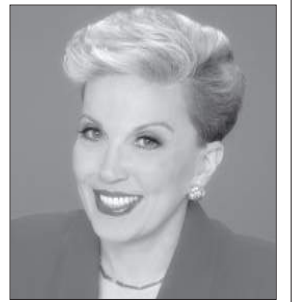
Known as a Nashville band, the Kings have strong and deep ties to Oklahoma. Half the Followill family band, which consists of brothers Jared, Nathan and Caleb and cousin Matthew, was born in the state. They cheer for Oklahoma sports teams and return every year for a family reunion in Talihina. And their fathers and many family members still live there.

Proceeds from the concert will benefit the United Way of Central Oklahoma May Tornadoes Relief Fund.

"Oklahoma's been a really huge part of our lives," Followill said. "We just have so many roots there and so many friends. A lot ... of people that are close to us were affected in one way or another, so I think it's just really important for us to do this and give pretty much all we can."

Girl in abusive relationship must get out of it—and fast

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: I am a 17-year-old girl who has been in a relationship for a year and a half with "Richard." I love him with everything in me, but he is mentally and physically abusive. He is also addicted to cough medicine.

I knew I should have stopped talking to him before we started dating, but he was such a mess I thought I could help him—and I did. He's no longer an alcoholic. He went to jail for seven months because of our age difference, but I refused to testify, so he got out. While he was in there I thought he had changed and wouldn't hit me anymore, but he still does.

Anyone in their right mind would get up and leave, but the one time I did, he pretended he didn't care and I attempted suicide. I don't know what to do. I love him, but I know I shouldn't.

ABUSED TEEN IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR TEEN: I'm glad you wrote. Richard may no longer be drinking liquor, but cough medicines contain alcohol, which means he's still an alcoholic. His violence toward women will probably never stop unless he is incarcerated for it, and even then there is no guarantee.

Regardless of how much love you give him, you can't fix what's wrong with him or make him love you back because he isn't capable of it.

Because you are so emotionally fragile, you should seek refuge with relatives who can help you heal physically and emotionally from this experience. If that's not possible, then contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline. Its website is www.thehotline.org, and the toll-free phone number is 800-799-7233. Ask for a referral to a women's shelter where you can receive counseling and support.

Help is available for you if you are open to it. Staying where you are is not an option because if you do, this man could kill you.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: While riding with my new boss to a sales appointment, he needed some information from his company-issued iPad. He asked me to turn it on and gave me the passcode. When I did, up popped a porn site. He almost wrecked the car grabbing the iPad from me.

Not another word was said until we arrived at the appointment and he looked up the item prior to going in. Nothing has been said about this incident since.

Every time I think about my boss having gone to that porn site before I touched the iPad, I get sick to my stomach. HE makes me sick. Do I resign or stay?

GROSSED OUT IN OHIO

DEAR GROSSED OUT: If the nausea is affecting your ability to perform your job, you should quit. But before you do, be sure you have another one lined up. And when you interview, as tempting as it may be, refrain from saying anything negative about your boss because to do otherwise will reflect poorly on you.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend wants to open the door for me when I am the one driving. I'm thrilled that he wants to be a gentleman, and I love when he opens the door for me when I am in the passenger seat or in front of any other door, as he always does. I am just not comfortable with it when I'm the one who's driving. It seems awkward to me. Your thoughts?

AT A LOSS IN COLORADO

DEAR AT A LOSS: Your boyfriend may do this because he wants to please you, or he was raised this way. Personally, I think what he's doing is endearing. However, because it makes you uncomfortable, explain that it "isn't necessary" and you would prefer he not do it when you are the driver.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Kris Jenner tries variety with talk show co-hosts



Jenner

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kris Jenner isn't going it alone on her new talk show: Joan Rivers and Sean "Diddy Combs" will be among the co-hosts sharing the stage with Jenner.

The show's producer said Monday that Jenner will be paired with a different co-host for each episode of the daytime show, titled "Kris."

Others in the lineup include Kathie Lee Gifford, Morris Chestnut, NeNe Leakes, Tom Bergeron and Ryan Seacrest, who produces "Keeping Up With the Kardashians," which features Jenner and other family members.

Khloe Kardashian-Odom, one of Jenner's daughters, also will be a "Kris" co-host.

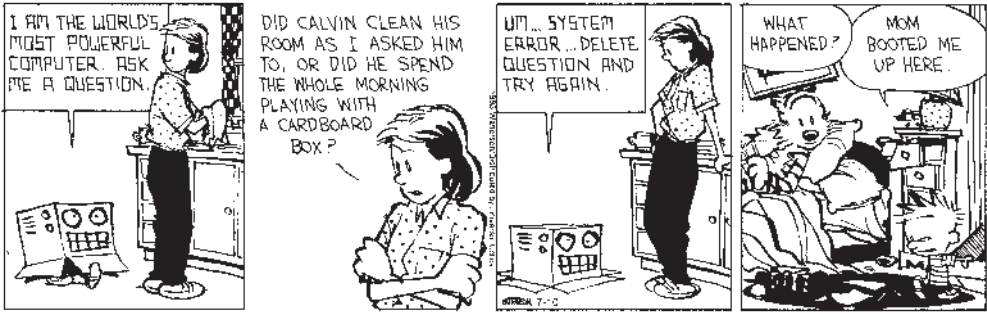
The talk show gets a trial run starting next week on selected Fox stations.

There was no word from producer 20th Television on whether another Jenner daughter, new mom Kim Kardashian, will get a co-host slot.

Pastimes

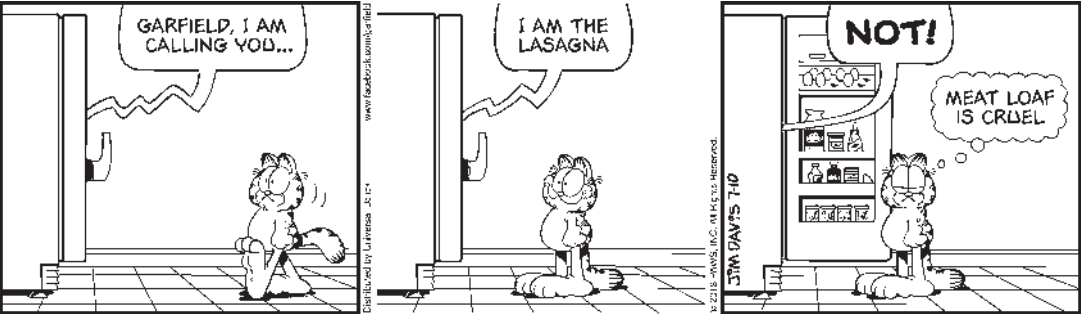
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



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The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Smelter, 5 Toast, 8 Swimmers', 12 Session with a shrink, 13 Oklahoma city, 14 Emanation, 15 Tornado, to an insurer, 17 Celeb, 18 Grave robber, 19 Glorifies, 21 Ringlet, 24 U.K. flyers, 25 Turkish —, 28 Tittle, 30 Martini ingredient, 33 Ostrich's kin, 34 Tale, 35 "I'll take that as —", 36 Understand.

DOWN 1 Carpet, 2 Ness or Lomond, 3 Car, 4 Oscar, for one, 5 Binge, 6 Commotion, 7 Put together, 8 Italian entree, 9 On "E", 10 Exam format, 11 Rock drummer, 16 Winter ailment, 20 Picture of health?, 22 Ceremony, 23 Crazy people, 25 Foundation, 26 Parisian pal, 27 Rope contest, 29 Jog, 31 Squid squirt, 32 Ph. bk. data, 34 Coin aperture, 38 Crafty, 40 Greeting, 42 Equal (Pref.), 43 Black, to a bard, 44 Most-liked, for short, 45 Revere, 47 "Beetle Bailey" dog, 48 Bring up, 49 Songwriter, Gus, 52 Ms. Thurman, 53 Cauldron.

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterdays answer 7-10

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jessica Simpson, 33; Adrian Grenier, 37; Sofia Vergara, 41; Arlo Guthrie, 66.

Happy Birthday: Rethink your personal and professional situation and what you have been doing to bring in cash. A change may be in order, and picking up education can contribute to your following an unusual path that will satisfy you mentally and financially. Broaden your outlook and diversify your skills and the services that can help you get ahead. Your numbers are 6, 10, 18, 27, 30, 38, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Follow your heart, socialize and meet new people to promote opportunities and change. Let your mind wander, and it will help you put the pieces of anything that is puzzling you into place. Take the initiative and make things happen. *****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Emotional problems will surface if you aren't careful how you handle friends, relatives or your lover. Don't force your will or impose on others. Making travel plans or signing up to learn something new should be where you put your energy. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Push your way to the top. Take advantage of creative opportunities. Open up your eyes and focus on what you can do, not what you cannot. The only one holding you back is you. Love is in the stars. Home improvements will pay off. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Like it or not, change is required. Don't judge situations or others based on how you feel.

Jump into new opportunities and proposals without making a fuss. How you handle what's going on around you will determine how successful you can become. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Three steps forward and five steps back. You have to be precise and ready to make changes on the move if you want to override the negativity or restrictions you face. Know your plan and strategize, targeting exactly what you want. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Give out and get back. It's simple what you have to do in order to get what you want. Make your offer perfectly clear. Once you get the ball rolling, there will be no looking back. Follow your gut feeling. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Listen carefully and refrain from being overly generous. You must find out what's expected of you before you say yes. Physical activities may not be your first choice, but moving about will help ease your stress. Love is highlighted. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Protect your heart. Don't mix business with pleasure. You can ferret out important information that will help you make the right choices financially, legally or medically. Don't let emotions or a poor relationship stand between you and success. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take a journey. Whether it's of a spiritual, informative or pleasurable nature, it will help you get back on track and make a decision regarding how you want to move forward emotionally and with regard to the way you live. *****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Nurture partnerships. It will not end up being to your advantage to jump ship or to put an end to something you haven't spent enough time trying to improve. Focus on what you can do to make those around you content. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A partnership can make a difference in a decision you have to make regarding your future, your finances or your professional direction. Love is heating up and making a point of getting closer to someone special will be beneficial. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take a unique approach to work. Network and you will charm someone with your ideas and plans for the future. A deal can be made if you are quick to draw up a workable agreement. Your intuition won't mislead you. ***

Birthday Baby: You are passionate, and you attract attention. You are creative and unpredictable. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

			4	3						
		3		7						
6					5					1
4	2	6				7	9	8		
			7							6
			3							2
		1	4	9	8	5	2	3		
		9		6		8				4
		8		7		6				9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterdays SUDOKU Answer

5	8	9	6	4	1	7	3	2
3	6	7	2	8	5	9	1	4
2	4	1	3	7	9	5	8	6
9	2	4	1	3	7	8	6	5
8	7	3	5	6	4	1	2	9
6	1	5	8	9	2	3	4	7
4	5	8	7	2	3	6	9	1
7	3	2	9	1	6	4	5	8
1	9	6	4	5	8	2	7	3

Difficulty Level ★★ 7/10

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

GEORGE STRAIT Solution: 7 letters

P	B	N	L	G	N	A	W	T	P	O	T	E	E	T
L	U	O	E	O	A	C	T	O	R	D	L	O	G	R
A	B	R	G	E	V	I	L	U	A	Y	E	U	I	O
T	B	M	E	R	D	E	G	R	T	F	B	A	V	U
I	A	A	N	C	A	N	B	S	I	R	O	D	E	B
N	R	N	D	N	O	M	A	U	U	O	W	A	I	A
U	A	A	T	S	O	U	M	L	G	N	V	L	T	D
M	E	E	E	G	R	N	N	Y	T	T	O	I	A	O
L	L	C	X	R	N	U	H	T	G	R	C	D	W	U
T	C	O	A	G	N	I	P	O	R	O	A	A	R	
N	U	N	S	N	I	W	K	S	J	Y	L	E	E	
U	C	O	W	B	O	Y	C	R	O	S	S	F	H	C
H	A	R	V	E	Y	T	R	E	P	O	R	T	O	
N	D	F	I	S	H	I	N	G	E	O	R	G	E	R
W	R	A	N	G	L	E	R	E	F	I	N	E	J	D

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Actor, Adalida, Belt, Bubba, Clear, Cowboy, Cross, Doris, Fishing, Front, George, Give It Away, Gold, Golf, Grammy, Guitar, Harvey, Heartland, Hunt, Jennifer, Jet, John, King, Lead, Legend, Live, Lovebug, Norma, Ocean, Platinum, Poteet, Property, Pure Country, Ranch, Record, Roping, Song, Spurs, Style, Texas, Tour, Troubadour, Twang, Vocals, Wins, Wrangler

Yesterdays Answer: Hydro

THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 34 is "Celebrities Vol. 3." To purchase, ca. toll-free, 1-800-942-6180. Order online at: word.wonderword.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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Kinsler has 4 RBIs as Rangers beat Orioles, 8-5



BALTIMORE

(AP)—Ian Kinsler capped a six-run sixth inning with a bases-loaded double as the Texas Rangers beat the Baltimore Orioles 8-5 on Monday in a rematch of last year's American League wild-card playoff game.

The victory moved the Rangers 15 games over .500 (52-37) for the first time since May 25. It also improved their road record to 25-18, best in franchise history after 43 games.

Kinsler had four RBIs, including three in the sixth against former teammate Scott Feldman (0-1) when the Rangers turned a 3-2 deficit into an 8-3 lead.

Derek Holland (7-4) allowed five runs, three earned, and 10 hits in 6 2-3 innings for Texas. He struck out Matt Wieters and MLB home run leader Chris Davis three times apiece.

Rays 7, Twins 4

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Yunel Escobar and Ben Zobrist homered during a three-run seventh inning as the surging Rays beat the Twins.

Escobar had a leadoff tie-breaking homer in the seventh off Samuel Deduno (4-4), who departed after Desmond Jennings followed with a triple. Caleb Thielbar entered and got one out before Zobrist gave Tampa Bay a 6-3 lead with a two-run shot.

Alex Torres (3-0) pitched a perfect seventh for the Rays, who have won nine of 10 and moved to a season-best 10-games (50-40) over .500. Escobar also had a sacrifice fly in the eighth.

Fernando Rodney got the final two outs to pick up his 20th save after an RBI single by Pedro Florimon off Jamey Wright.

Tigers 4, Indians 2

In Cleveland, Max Scherzer remained unbeaten and Victor Martinez hit a two-run double in the 10th inning as the Detroit Tigers extended their lead in the AL Central division with a win over the second-place Indians.

Martinez doubled off Matt Albers (2-1) as the Tigers won three of four in the series and moved 3 1/2 games ahead in the division.

Drew Smyly (4-0) worked out of a jam in the ninth for the win, and Joaquin Benoit pitched the 10th for his seventh save, striking out Mike Aviles with runners at first and third to end the game.

Royals 5, Yankees 1

In New York, Jeremy Guthrie neatly handled a nemesis and a long rain delay to pitch into the seventh inning and Billy Butler homered as the Royals beat the Yankees.

All-Star Alex Gordon, David Lough and Johnny Giavotella each had RBI doubles, and Alcides Escobar added a run-scoring triple to help the Royals end a five-game losing streak



Texas Rangers' Ian Kinsler doubles in three runs against the Baltimore Orioles during the sixth inning of a baseball game, Monday, July 8, 2013, in Baltimore. AP

against New York.

Guthrie (8-6) held the Yankees to just three hits over six innings that included a 59-minute delay for a hailstorm in the fourth.

With the bases loaded in the ninth, closer Greg Holland struck out Eduardo Nunez, Brett Gardner and Zoilo Almonte to end it for his 21st save.

Mariners 11, Red Sox 4

In Seattle, Felix Hernandez held the Red Sox to two runs and six hits over seven innings and Raul Ibanez hit his 22nd home run in leading the Mariners to a victory over Boston.

Hernandez (9-4) walked two and struck out six, maintaining his 2.69 ERA, second lowest in the American League behind teammate Hisashi Iwakuma's 2.60.

Hernandez allowed two or fewer runs for the 13th time in 19 starts.

Ibanez's home run—on a 0-2 pitch from Boston starter Jon Lester (8-5)—broke a 2-2 tie in the fifth. It was the 41-year-old's seventh go-ahead home run and extended his hitting streak to 13 games.

Seattle pounded out 15 hits in winning for the fifth time in seven games. Boston has lost three straight, matching its season high.

Cubs 8, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Matt Garza pitched seven strong innings and Alfonso Soriano homered and scored four runs as the Cubs pulled away late to beat the White Sox.

Dave Sappelt had a career-high four hits, while Soriano had three. Luis Valbuena drove in three runs, hitting the tie-breaking two-run double and scoring during a five-run eighth.

Garza (5-1), meanwhile, came through with another terrific outing. He's 4-0 in his last

five starts after allowing two runs—one earned—and five hits, striking out six without a walk. He's lowered his ERA from 4.98 to 3.22 during this stretch.

The Cubs completed the four-game season sweep against their crosstown rivals.

Mets 4, Giants 3

In San Francisco, Eric Young scored on shortstop Brandon Crawford's fielding error with two outs in the 16th inning as the New York Mets outlasted the San Francisco Giants.

Young singled with one out and stole second. After he advanced to third on Daniel Murphy's groundout, lefty Javier Lopez entered and intentionally walked David Wright.

Crawford couldn't handle pinch-hitter Anthony Recker's grounder, allowing Young to score and handing New York its first win in a game that went at least 15 innings after losing its first three this season.

This one lasted 5 hours, 26 minutes. It was the longest game in time and innings the Giants had played this season.

Phillies 3, Nationals 2

In Philadelphia, John Lannan tossed four-hit ball over eight innings against his former team and Ben Revere had three hits as Philadelphia beat Washington.

Lannan (2-3) had four strikeouts in his longest outing in four years. The lefty registered 12 groundouts to beat the team he played for his first six seasons in the majors.

Jonathan Papelbon allowed two runs in a shaky ninth to earn his 19th save in 23 tries.

Dan Haren (4-10) came off the disabled list and took the loss after missing two weeks because of right shoulder inflammation. Haren allowed two runs and seven hits in five

innings, striking out a season-high seven.

Revere and Jimmy Rollins, the 1-2 hitters in Philadelphia's lineup were 5 for 9 with three runs and one RBI.

Dodgers 6, Diamondbacks 1

On Phoenix, Zack Greinke gave up two hits in seven scoreless innings as Los Angeles ended the Diamondbacks' five-game winning streak.

Greinke (7-2) struck out seven and walked two in his fourth straight win. He also had a career-high three hits.

Hanley Ramirez singled three times to extend his career-best hitting streak to 19 games and was one of five Dodgers with an RBI.

Los Angeles, winner of 13 of 16, tied its season high with 17 hits—16 of them singles.

Randall Delgado (1-3) allowed three runs and 11 hits in six innings.

Andre Ethier also had three hits as Los Angeles climbed within 3 1/2 games of the first-place Diamondbacks in the NL West division.

Brewers 4, Reds 3

In Milwaukee, center fielder Car-

los Gomez robbed Joey Votto of a potential go-ahead homer with a spectacular catch in the ninth inning, saving Milwaukee's victory over Cincinnati.

Jonathan Lucroy homered for the third consecutive game for the last-place Brewers. Jean Segura had three hits off Homer Bailey (5-7) in the right-hander's first start since his second no-hitter in 10 months.

Kyle Lohse (5-6) pitched into the seventh for his fourth consecutive win. Francisco Rodriguez finished for his ninth save and No. 303 of his career, tying Doug Jones for 22nd on the major league list.

Chris Heisey homered for Cincinnati, which has lost three of four.

Braves 7, Marlins 1, 14 innings

In Miami, Justin Upton broke a tie by driving in two runs when he doubled in a six-run 14th inning to lead Atlanta past Miami.

Five Miami relievers combined to retire 24 consecutive batters before Reed Johnson walked to start the 14th against Chris Hatcher (0-1). Jason Heyward walked with one out, and Upton's double scored both runners.

Gerald Laird hit a two-out, two-run single. Chris Johnson added an RBI single with the bases loaded, and another run scored when the ball skipped past left fielder Justin Ruggiano for an error.

Seven relievers for the two teams combined to retire 30 straight batters from the eighth to the 13th. David Carpenter (2-0) pitched two innings and escaped a jam in the 13th.

Rockies 4, Padres 2

In San Diego, Tyler Chatwood took a shutout into the seventh inning as Colorado handed slumping San Diego its 10th consecutive defeat.

Wilin Rosario hit a two-run double to help the Rockies end a three-game slide with their second victory in eight games. They have won nine of 11 against San Diego this season.

Chatwood (5-2) allowed two runs and five hits in a season-high 6 2-3 innings. Rafael Betancourt worked the ninth for his 12th save in 13 opportunities, retiring pinch-hitter Mark Kotsay with two on to end it.

Edinson Volquez (6-7) gave up four runs and eight hits in 5 1-3 innings. The Padres have lost 16 of 20 since winning a season-high seven straight to move two games over .500 on June 17.

Athletics 2, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Bartolo Colon allowed one run over seven innings as the Athletics won for the ninth time in their past 12 games, beating the Pirates.

The 40-year-old Colon (12-3) shook off a tough-luck 3-1 defeat in his previous start to win for the ninth time in his last 10 outings. He outdueled Jeff Locke, who had a personal eight-game winning streak broken. Locke (8-2) lost for the first time since his first start of the season April 10.

Colon moved into a tie for second in the majors in victories, and has the second-most wins by a 40-year-old in A's history. He allowed seven hits and one walk with five strikeouts.

Coco Crisp made a diving catch in left-center to preserve Oakland's lead in the seventh off a hard-hit sinking liner from Andrew McCutchen with two men on and two outs.

Ryan Howard needs knee surgery, out 6-8 weeks

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—There's a reason why Ryan Howard was limping around the field.

The Philadelphia Phillies' slugger needs surgery to repair a torn meniscus in his left knee and will miss at least six to eight weeks. An MRI on Monday confirmed the tear in his knee. A date for surgery hasn't been set.

"It could have been much more significant damage," general manager Ruben Amaro Jr. said. "We don't want

any of our players on the DL. But we know what it is and it's treatable. Hopefully we can get him back in time to play this year."

Howard, the 2006 NL MVP, went on the disabled list Saturday. The three-time All-Star was hitting .266 with 11 homers and 43 RBIs. He was noticeably hobbling during games before he was shut down. He said he continued to play through the pain because he thought he could perform.

"We have to take care of it,"

Amaro said.

Howard played his first game last season on July 6 after tearing his left Achilles tendon making the final out in the 2011 NL division series. The 33-year-old first baseman has been on a steady decline since signing a \$125 million, five-year contract extension on April 26, 2010.

Howard averaged 50 homers and 143 RBIs between 2006-09. He hasn't hit more than 33 or driven in more than 116 runs since then.

Source: Cavs meeting with free agent Bynum



CLEVELAND (AP)—Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert wondered what other moves general manager Chris Grant had in mind to improve Cleveland this summer.

He knows now.

The Cavs hosted free agent center Andrew Bynum on Monday, a person familiar with the visit told The Associated Press. The 7-foot Bynum, who didn't play one game for Philadelphia last season because of a knee injury, met with team officials at Cleveland Clinic Courts, the club's suburban facility, said the person who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of negotiations.

On Sunday, Gilbert went on Twitter to applaud the team's acquisition of free agent forward Earl Clark and guard Jarrett Jack, who both agreed to terms on deals with Cleveland last week. On his page, Gilbert wrote: "I am more than excited about (at)TeamEarlClark & (at)JarrettJack03 joining the (at)cavs! Two team players that flat-out make us better. What's next CG?"

Bynum's meeting with the Cavs was first reported by ESPN.

Yahoo! Sports reported on Monday night that the Cavaliers made a two-year offer to Bynum, according to league sources.

Grant is hoping to land a big man, and with Dwight Howard signing with Houston, the



In this March 1, 2013 file photo, Philadelphia 76ers' Andrew Bynum speaks to members of the media at the team's NBA training facility in Philadelphia.

25-year-old Bynum is the most attractive center on the market.

The Cavs want to first make sure Bynum is healthy before

offering him a deal.

The Dallas Mavericks are

also reportedly interested in Bynum after not getting Howard.

With more than \$15 million under the projected salary cap, the Cavs may be interested in offering Bynum a lucrative one-year deal. They don't want to tie up any money beyond next season because they intend to be active in free agency next summer, when their will be several top-tier players available, maybe even LeBron James, who can opt out of his contract with Miami after next season.

Before he was traded to the 76ers last summer, Bynum played for the Los Angeles Lakers under Cleveland coach Mike Brown. In his one season with Brown, Bynum had his best season, averaging 18.7 points and 11.8 rebounds. He was acquired by Philadelphia last year from the Lakers as part of a four-team trade, but he never got on the floor and

the Sixers disintegrated.

Bynum underwent arthroscopic surgery on both knees in March.

Last month, his agent, David Lee, told the AP there's "not a concern in the world" that Bynum will be ready for training camp.

If the Cavs are able to sign Bynum, and assuming he's healthy, they would immediately move back into play-off contention in the Eastern Conference. Bynum would be added to a nucleus that includes All-Star guard Kyrie Irving, forwards Anderson Varejao and Tristan Thompson, Jack, guard Dion Waiters and forward Anthony Bennett, the No. 1 overall pick in last month's draft.

Gilbert has already stated he expects the Cavs to make the playoffs next season after winning just 66 total games in the three years since James left.

Shaq: LA spotlight too bright for Dwight Howard

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Shaquille O'Neal says the Los Angeles spotlight was too bright for Dwight Howard.

Speaking at Daytona International Speedway on Saturday, Shaq hammered his former colleague as if they were battling in the post.

O'Neal opened his mouth agape when asked about Howard, who chose to leave the Lakers for the Houston Rock-

ets late Friday, and joked about cheering on Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Danica Patrick in Saturday's race.

A few seconds later, he threw an elbow Howard's way.

"It was expected," Shaq said. "We've all been in L. A., and not a whole lot of people can handle being under the bright lights. Everybody wants to do it, but when you get there, there are certain pressures. I think it was a

safe move for him to go to a little town like Houston. That's right, little town. I said it."

O'Neal didn't want to spend much time talking about Howard, though, and quickly tried to stay focused on favorite driver Patrick.

"Danica Patrick is one of my favorites. I hope she wins. She's very feisty. I love the way she competes," O'Neal said.

Asked later what specifically

he liked about Patrick, O'Neal was quite specific.

"Honestly? She's hot. Smokin'," O'Neal said. "Hey, Danica, call me. Danica, call me."

"Don't do it," comedian Adam Sandler responded.

The big man got to briefly meet the diminutive Patrick at the pre-race driver meeting. He removed his hat from the top of his head, placed it over

his heart and told Patrick "I'm a huge fan." He then asked her if she'd pose for a photo, which she eagerly did, passing off her own phone to make sure someone got a shot for her to keep.

O'Neal served as one of the grand marshals for the race at Daytona, joining Sandler and fellow comedian Kevin James. The trio was on hand to promote their movie "Grown Ups 2." They sang the command to start engines, a rendition that was widely panned on social media sites.

Judge orders NFL, retired players to negotiate



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—The NFL and former players must try to negotiate a dispute over whether complaints about concussion-related injuries belong in court or in arbitration, a federal judge said Monday.

U.S. District Judge Anita B. Brody of Philadelphia had planned to rule July 22 in a legal fight that involves about 4,200 former players and could be worth billions of dollars.

But instead she ordered the two sides to begin mediation with retired federal Judge Layn Phillips. The retirees want the right to sue the league, while the NFL insists the claims must be arbitrated under terms of the collective bargaining agreement.

Brody asked for a progress report by Sept. 3, while placing a gag order on the lawyers. Both sides agreed to comply.

Many former players say they suffer from dementia, Alzheimer's disease and other neurological conditions, which they believe stem from on-field concussions. The league insists that safety has always been a top priority.

Both sides have something to fear from a court ruling. Brody could throw out the

lawsuits and steer them to arbitration; or accept some or all of them, and open up internal NFL files to plaintiffs' lawyers looking for a smoking gun. Still, sports law professor Marc Edelman, who teaches at Fordham University and Baruch College, called it "highly unlikely" that either side would budge during mediation.

"The sentimental impact of this type of case is one that would make it strongly advantageous for the plaintiffs to get to a jury," Edelman said. "The position the NFL has taken is they are not liable for anything that's happened to the players."

In legal arguments before Brody in April, NFL lawyer Paul Clement said teams bear the chief responsibility for health and safety under the contract, along with the players' union and the players themselves. Players' lawyer David Frederick accused the league of concealing studies linking concussions to neurological problems for decades.

"The plaintiffs got in a lot of their case, that the NFL glorified violence all these years. I would think in mediation that Judge Phillips would let it go further, if that's what they

want to talk about," said Andrew Brandt, who directs a sports law center at Villanova University School of Law.

In recent years, a string of former NFL players and other concussed athletes have been diagnosed after their deaths with chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or CTE, including popular Pro Bowler Junior Seau and lead plaintiff Ray Easterling. Both committed suicide last year.

About one-third of the league's 12,000 former players have joined the litigation since 2011. Some legal experts feel the NFL may be most vulnerable on claims from a few hundred "gap" players, who played during years when there was no contract in place.

"We respect and will comply with the court's order regarding mediation and will be available to meet with Judge Phillips at his direction," NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said in a statement. The Plaintiffs' Executive Committee for the former NFL players also pledged to "follow the court's directive."

Phillips, 61, had a meteoric law career before leaving the federal bench in Oklahoma and moving to private practice before age 40. He was a ten-

nis standout at the University of Tulsa, where he also played flag football, according to an online

biography. He is now based in Newport Beach, Calif.

"Judge Phillips is pleased to

NFL BRIEFS

Judge to unseal search warrants in Hernandez case

ATTLEBORO, Mass. (AP)—A Massachusetts judge says he will release impounded search warrant materials in the murder case involving former New England Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez. Attleboro District Court Judge Daniel O'Shea on Monday said the material will be released at 2 p.m. Tuesday. Motions to unseal the material were filed by The Patriot Ledger and Taunton Gazette newspapers and their parent Gatehouse Media, supported by The Associated Press, and by The Boston Globe. Prosecutors and Hernandez's defense attorney had opposed releasing the material. District Attorney Samuel Sutter said Monday he would not appeal the judge's decision. Hernandez has pleaded not guilty to a murder charge in the June 17 fatal shooting of Odin Lloyd of Boston. Lloyd's body was found in an industrial park near Hernandez's North Attleborough home. Two other men are facing

lesser charges.

Jets coach Ryan runs with bulls twice in Pamplona

NEWYORK (AP)—Rex Ryan spent part of his summer vacation running from angry bulls. The New York Jets coach joined thousands of thrill-seekers on Sunday and Monday in the annual running of the bulls at the San Fermin festival in Pamplona, Spain. The team confirmed Monday that Ryan was uninjured while participating both days in the run, which is the highlight of a nine-day street festival and is televised nationally. Ryan was there on two mostly uneventful days as there were no gorings, while six people were treated for injuries. Ben Patton, a contestant on NBC's matchmaker show "Ready for Love," tweeted an Instagram photo <http://instagram.com/p/bf6Qk0x2t5/> (hash) of himself and some friends posing with Ryan in Pamplona. A slim-looking Ryan is wearing white pants, a red T-shirt

have been appointed ... in this challenging and complex matter. He looks forward to working with the parties to achieve resolution," his office said in a statement.

with a picture of a bull in the middle—with the words "Bad Toro" printed underneath—and a red bandana around his neck. The sports website Deadspin posted a 17-second video Monday night of what clearly appears to be Ryan climbing a barricade, along with several other participants, moments before a bull charges down the street. It was uncertain if the video was from Ryan's run on Sunday or Monday. The race, which lasts just over 2 minutes, takes place early in the morning as participants run with six fighting bulls along a narrow course of about 900 yards. It ends when the bulls have run from a holding pen to a city bull ring. Ryan isn't the first football coach to race through the streets of the northern Spanish city. Philadelphia Eagles coach Chip Kelly, then the coach at Oregon, participated in the event last summer, along with wide receivers coach Scott Frost—a former Jets safety. Ryan and the Jets report for training camp on July 25 in Cortland, N.Y.

CNMI U18 vs USS Momsen All-Stars

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Players and coaching staff of the CNMI U18 National Team and USS *Momsen* All-Stars pose for a group photo after their friendly game last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



Players of the CNMI U18 National Team and USS *Momsen* All-Stars shake hands after the match.



The USS *Momsen* All-Stars huddle after the game.



A USS *Momsen* All-Stars striker dribbles against two CNMI defenders.



John Taisacan kicks the ball out.



Kennedy Izuka in action against two USS *Momsen* All-Stars defend-



Joel Fruit pushes off a USS *Momsen* All-Stars player.



One USS *Momsen* All-Stars player battles three CNMI strikers for the ball.



Coach Johann Noetzel talks to the players after the match.



CNMI U18 National Team players head to the side of USS *Momsen* All-Stars to shake hands with their foes after the match.



**Kinsler has
4 RBIs as
Rangers beat
Orioles, 8-5**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Source: Cavs
meeting with
free agent
Bryant**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

4 swimmers off to World Championships

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI will be sending four swimmers to the 15th FINA World Championships in Barcelona, Spain later this month.

BCN 2013
FINA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



Leading the list of the Commonwealth bets joining the long course (50-meter) swimming competition are World Championships returnees Rezne Wong and Victoria Chentsova. Completing the CNMI Team are newcomers Kensuke Kimura and Angel De Jesus.

Wong has been representing the CNMI to the biennial event since 2007, making his fourth straight appearance in the FINA-sanctioned event and fifth, including the short course competition in Istanbul, Turkey in December last year. In 2007, he debuted in the championships held in Melbourne, Australia, with former Saipan Swim Club swimmers Cooper Graf and Sarah Johnson. In 2009 in Rome, Italy, the 2010 Micronesian Games' top male athlete was with Graf, Kai Staal, and Shin Kimura. Then in 2011 in Shanghai, China Wong was with Chentsova and another SSC bet Grace Kimball.

The University of Hawaii-Manoa swimmer had a successful

See 4 SWIMMERS on Page 26



De Jesus



Chentsova



Wong



Kimura

Kamikaze outlasts Yuichiro



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kamikaze's Edwin Santos tries to draw contact with Yuichiro's Frank Mettao after a rebound play during the third quarter of their game in the DL Corp. caging last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Kamikaze went all out in the fourth quarter to down Yuichiro, 84-73, in the curtain-raiser in the 2013 DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Monday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Down 63-67 early in the playoff period, Kamikaze unloaded a 13-0 bomb in a span of about four minutes

to grab the momentum of the game and win its debut in the 14-team field. Jerald Rivera started the rally with a banked triple from the right key, while big men Marlon De Dios and Edwin Santos finished the job with their multiple baskets in the paint.

Yuichiro collapsed as it was held to only three field goals in the last 7:58 of the match and 13 markers in the entire fourth quarter against the 26 of Kamikaze. A Juan Camacho putback

See KAMIKAZE on Page 26

CNMI youth strikers train at Trench Tech



Players of the CNMI U18 National Team made a switched from the pitch to the mats, as they crossed-trained at the Trench Tech Gym in Susupe last week.

To prepare for their friendly

match against the visiting USS Momen All-Stars, the Commonwealth players underwent MMA training with seasoned instructor and police officer Jason Tarkong on Tuesday, enduring the first part of the session—a grueling circuit work-

session, Trench Tech promoter and coach Cuki Alvarez taught the CNMI youth players “super-legs” workout.

“The boys were great. They came in with a lot of power already so it was good to work with in-form athletes. Kudos to the coaching staff that has

been working with these guys the last few months,” said Alvarez, who is no stranger to competition, having joined motocross and jetski tournaments and MMA events.

Players worked tirelessly in the two sessions lasting a little over an hour each. They made the short training switch

See CNMI on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players and coaching staff of the CNMI U18 National Team and Trench Tech's Cuki Alvarez, fourth from left front row, show the fighting stance after a training session in Susupe last week.